R RATED

WARNING: MAY CONTAIN EXPLICIT CONTENT
SUITABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY

Alexis Cook

Melaureus 2005

Alexis - Wow, you are an amazing young lady! Not only are you extremely intelligent, but you are a very talented actor (at least you will be). You did a wonderful job w/ the one-act plays, and you worked hard. Have a great summer & Remember to shoot for the moon, that way if you miss, you'll still land among the stars.

God Bless You!
Coach Fowler

P.S. Let me know how well you're doing next year.

ALEXIS,

YOU ARE A GREAT STUDENT WITH A GREAT PERSONALITY. IT HAS BEEN MY PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU IN CLASS(ES), HAVE A GREAT SUMMER, COME BACK TO SEE ME NEXT YEAR.

Schaller

Like
I
wasent
here

R RATED

1. Husky on Moore Field sign.
2. Rico Hudson, 10th grade. See no evil.
3. Ashley Hopfer, 11th grade. Speak no evil.
4. Jeff Soehngen, 9th grade. Hear no evil.
5. Sign on Orlando Drive by the entrance to the school.
6. Before the football team's victory over Chaminade, fans fill the stands at Moore Field.

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9100 St. Charles Rock Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63114
314-439-6105
www.ritenour.k12.mo.us
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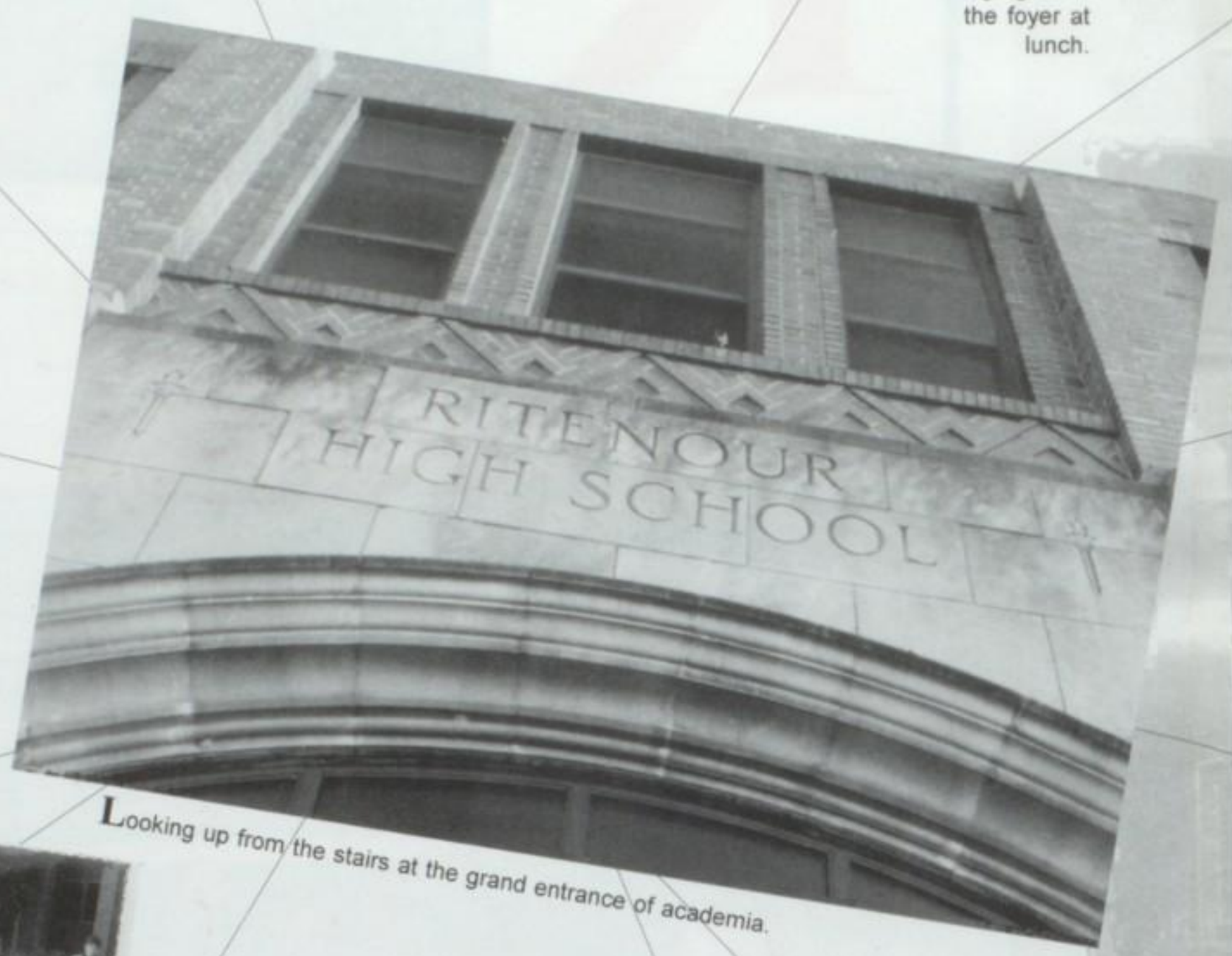
Aiesha Awad and Amanda Uelk color their English project.

Marchers in the homecoming parade.

During lunch, students gather in front of the school.

Varsity football game versus Riverview.

Students focus on proper pronunciation in German class.



Looking up from the stairs at the grand entrance of academia.

Students congregate in the foyer at lunch.

Paw prints on Orlando's pavement mark the path of the Huskies.

R

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THE SEQUEL

Rated

R You have been labeled R-Rated...

Workng hard to maintain your reputation...

by Sara Lewis

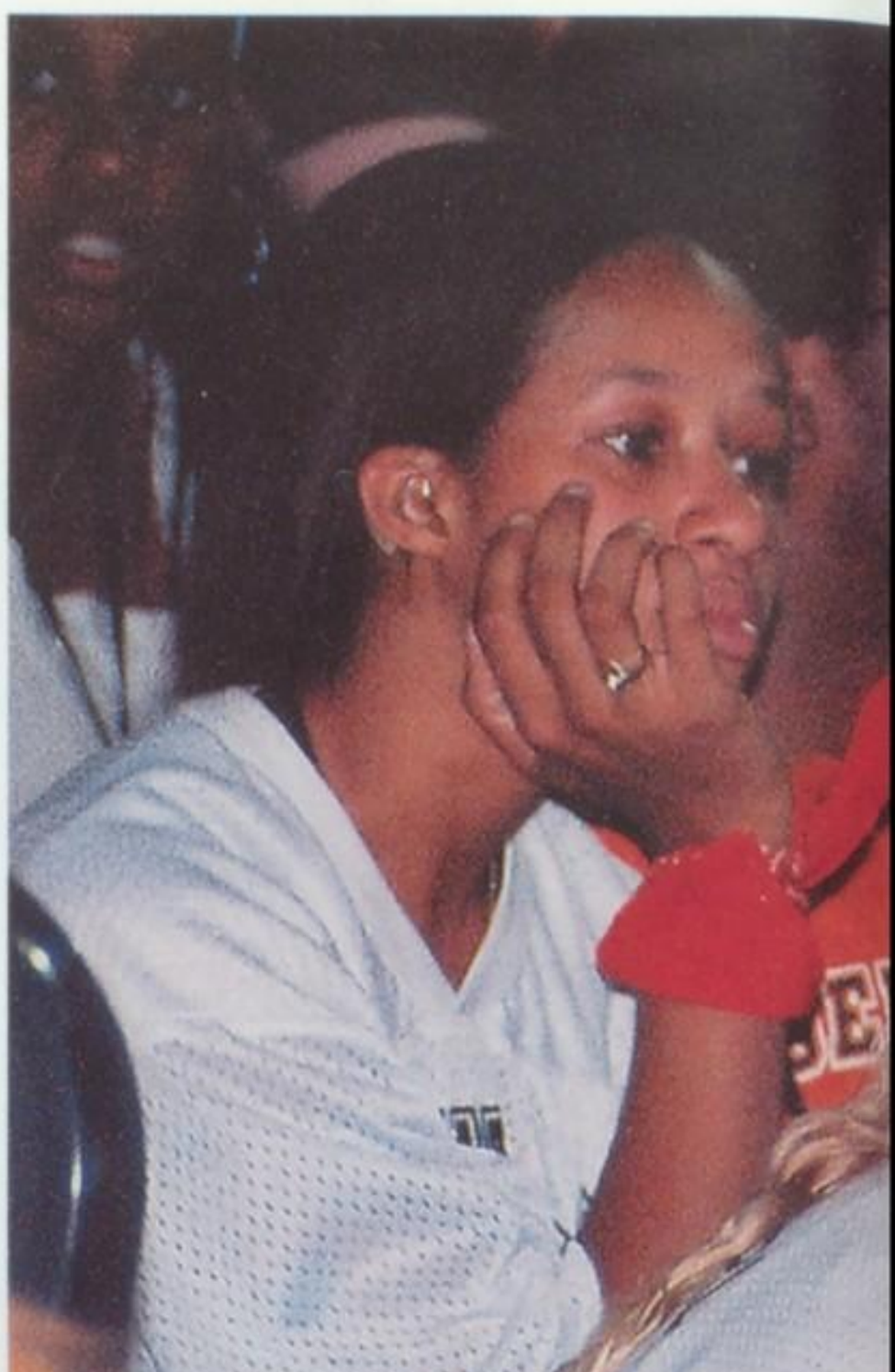
Your body is aching. Your heart is pounding. Your coach yells that if everyone does this drill perfectly one more time, practice will be over for the day. Every player executes the exercise flawlessly, ending another strenuous practice. Your team is good. You have an fantastic record; and you have never been on a team that has gotten along better than you and your teammates do. You tell everyone good-bye and quickly make plans for the weekend.

You trot over to the side of the playing area where your bags lie in a heap along with your teammates'. Your backpack is bulging with books, binders, and notebooks. You have a long night of studying ahead of you. In order to get a scholarship to attend the college that you have had your eye on, you must keep your grades up. On top of working at your after-school job to pay for bills, such as car insurance and your cell phone bill, as well as playing varsity sports, you also work extremely hard to keep your grade point average impeccable.

Just then, you notice it--the slight scuff that appeared in the toe of your shoe a few practices ago has turned into a gaping hole. Your tattered shoes will have to be replaced before tomorrow. After going over your busy schedule for the night, you decide to head to the mall on your way home to pick up some new ones for the big game the next day. You call your mom on your cell phone and tell her that you'll be going shopping on the way, but you should be home soon.

As you head into the mall, you notice eyes upon you. You shrug it off as you focus your attention on the color of sneakers that you are going to pick out. Walking up and down the aisle, you catch a glimpse of your outfit in the mirror—mesh shorts and bright orange shirt with the words "Ritenour Athletic Department" emblazoned across the chest. You find a desirable pair of shoes and head to check out.

You make your way to the cashier. The middle-aged woman at the counter takes your shoes along with your money, making small talk. She looks at your shirt and asks if you are in high school. When you reply that you are a student at Ritenour, she gives you a funny look. The conversation suddenly comes to a halt, and she silently hands you a receipt. You can tell by the look in her eyes that the opinion about you has instantly changed from that of a hard working student that that of a "bad kid." Instantly, it hits you—you have been labeled R-Rated.



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Decorating the halls, students from the freshman class support each other by creating spirited signs. This sign making contributed to forming the sense of community at the high school.

In the huddle, freshman Brittany Collins catches her breath in between periods. The volleyball team used this opportunity to plan their defense against their rival.

Drum major, Kassie Stillman, directs the band to prepare for "Hey Baby," one of the football game traditions. The marching band practiced these songs during the summer as well as the regular season.

Urging his teammate to keep going, quarterback Josh McGrotty massages runningback Dominic Richardson's injured left ankle. The Huskies used this kind of teamwork to keep each other going.

Rhythmettes have time to joke around before their performance at Ritenour Middle. During the down time between their performances, the girls formed bonds that helped develop their style.

Emulating "The Scream," junior Anthony Clemons jocularly displays his reaction to the false negative perceptions of Ritenour. Like most of our students, Anthony managed to balance studies with his busy schedule.

Seniors intensely listen to the Ritenour Hall of Famers speak about their pride in not only graduating with a Ritenour diploma, but being able to succeed in life because of it. The assembly featured selected Ritenour graduates and highlighted their accomplishments.

Flag Corps member Libby Thomas prepares for her performance. Also known as the Band Auxillary, the group worked with both Mr. Haux, Band Director, and Ms. Hillary Van Hook, Auxillary Sponsor, to choreograph their routines.

At the winter sports assembly, Brandon Hamilton, a senior, wins the pudding and bubble-gum contest. He learned to blow a bubble during the competition, and the seniors celebrated.

Hanging by the senior section of the gym during the Homecoming assembly, the sign represents the class of 2005. The seniors frequently won the spirit stick for their efforts in promoting school involvement.

R ...Because you deserve it.

...of being R-Rated

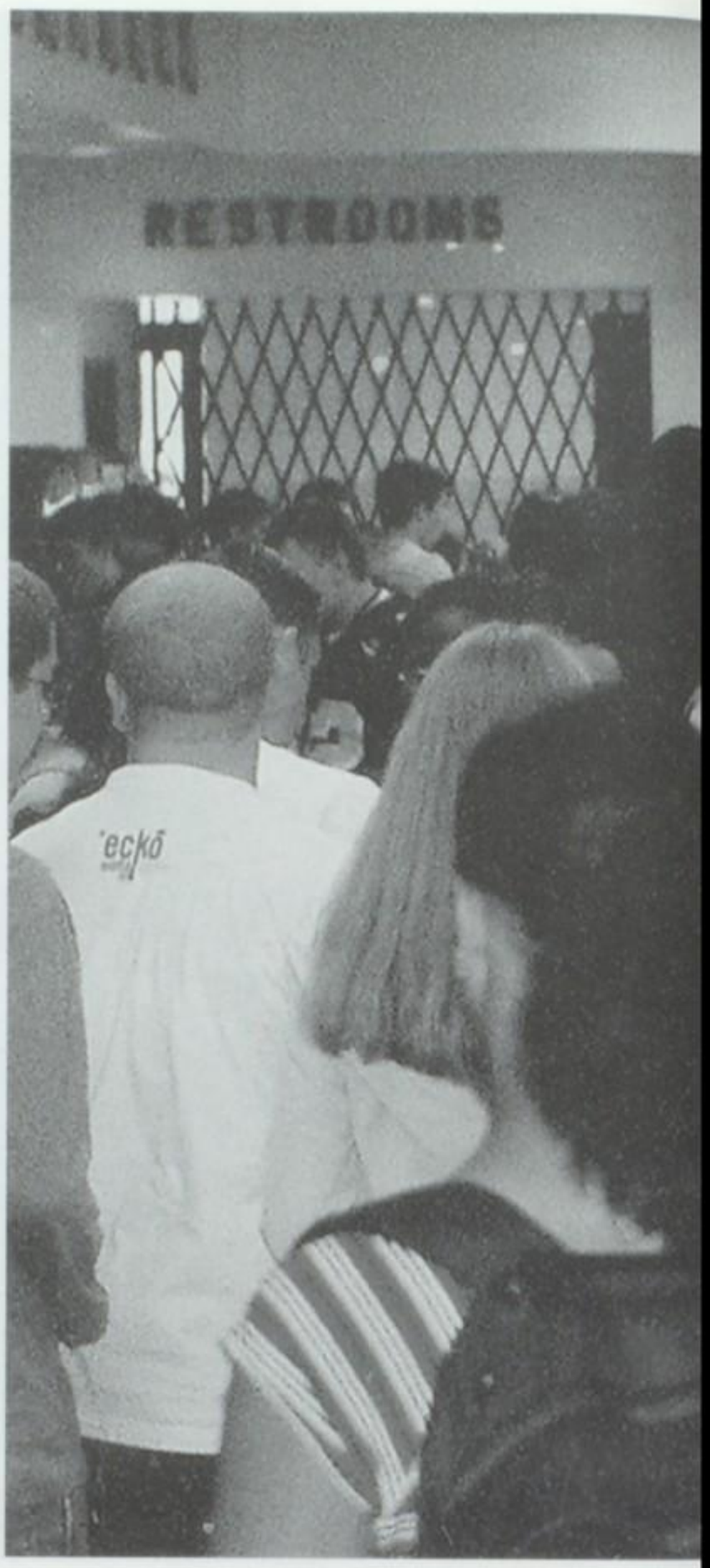
Continued from page 4

R-Rated was a term that many used to describe Ritenour. To many students, saying that they attended Ritenour was almost an insult. To adults who have lived in the community for years, the word "Ritenour" conjured up images of delinquents and criminals prowling about, making our school into a sinister and dangerous place. Unfortunately, this was simply not true. Students at our school were some of the best and brightest around. The problem was, until students were convinced of this excellence, no one else was convinced, either.

Looking around our school was evidence enough that Ritenour did not live up to its R-Rated reputation. Early in the morning, the National Honor Society met long before other students arrived, planning service projects for elementary schools. During lunch, the Leadership class collected money to grant a terminally ill child one more happy memory. In the hot afternoon, the football team toiled on the football field, in order to improve their record for yet another season. Every student that simply came to school every day and always turned in his or her homework was doing so much to restore Ritenour's reputation to one of excellence.

Often, the community did not see this hard work. They may never understand the hours of studying that many students put in night after night in hopes of receiving the prestigious Gold R award. They probably never experienced the power of a choir member's voice while belting out National Anthem at a Homecoming assembly, surrounded with classmates competing for the spirit stick. They did hear, however, when students slandered Ritenour in public. No matter how much community service Ritenour students did to improve the surrounding areas, the negative words continued to echo in their ears. Those words, as well as the explicit content throughout this book, came straight from the source—Ritenour students themselves.

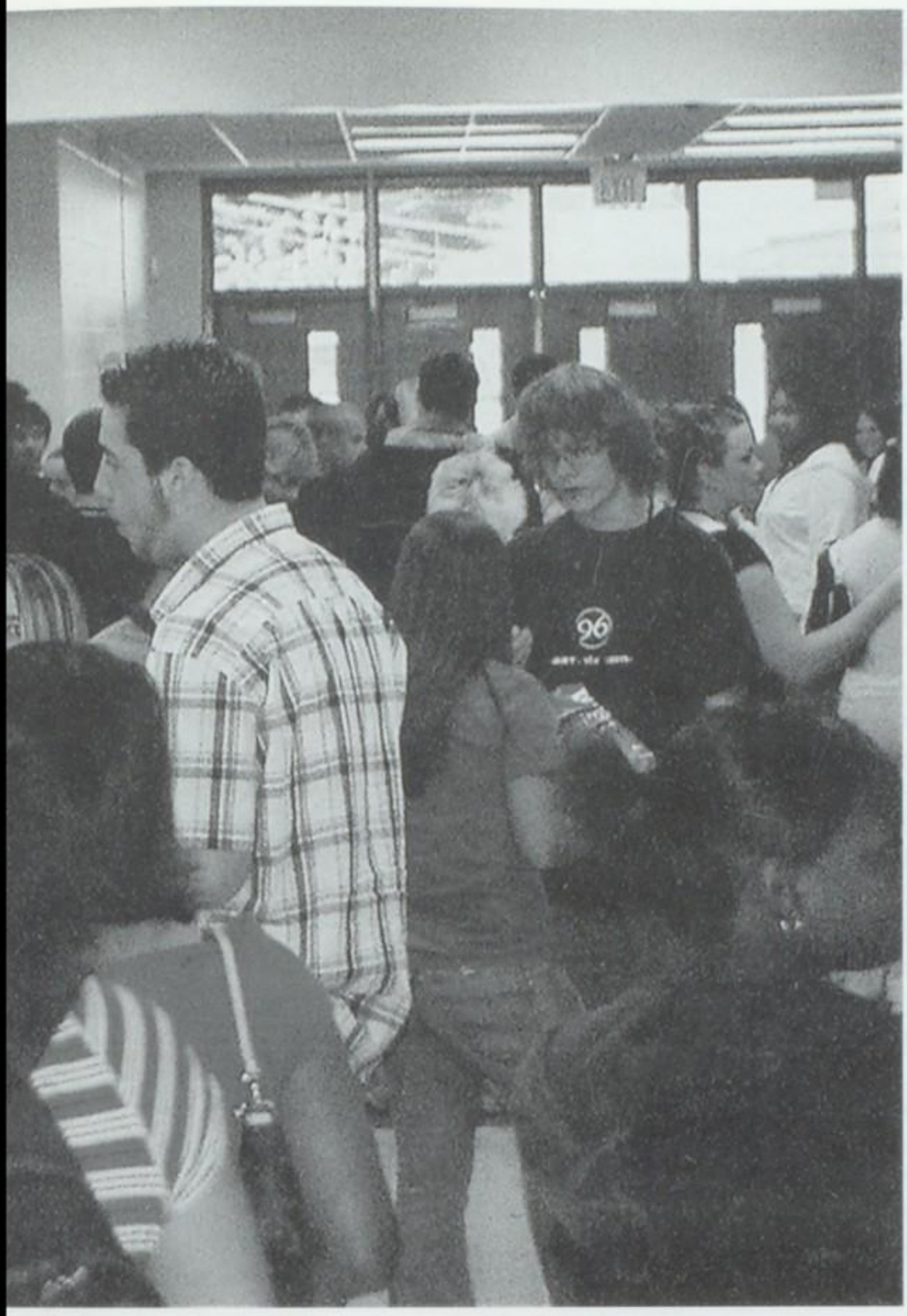
While surrounding communities considered Ritenour students R-Rated, they did not understand the true meaning of the label. Being R-Rated was not as much a stigma as a compliment. We were mature students and athletes who were proud of the school that we attended and the values we represented. We worked hard at athletics, academics, and many other aspects of our lives, and our reputation reflected this dedication. We have earned the privilege to be considered R-Rated.



In business classes, students learn skills to help them both write English papers and to prepare them for the future, whether it involves business, computer graphics, or being a cashier. Horace Kemp received a dose of career skills through developing computer skills.

In Acheiva, students improve their skills for the ACT and the SAT. Sophomore Jae Park concentrated on the computer-generated test question.

Drumline bass player Garret Lacy plays for Ritenour Middle School students. Performances like these facilitated both band and school participation.



Powder puff coaches volunteer from the varsity football team. Cornell Williams, Josh Wuest, and Justin O'Bryant led the seniors to victory in the annual game, which helped to raise funds for prom.

Leadership student Amanda Steed sells spirit bands in the foyer to help raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Helping this organization was a tradition for the Ritenour STUCO.

Mingling at lunch offers a chance for freshmen to visit with other classes. Bradley Moonshine, a freshman, and Becky Smith, a sophomore, unwind before they head back to class.

The foyer is a large part of the lunch process. Students had the chance to raid the vending machines, hang with friends, and, most importantly, visit random fundraising tables set up for student donations.

Glancing precariously around the meeting room, senior Becky Coleman listens as the National Honor Society officers address the group about upcoming volunteer community projects. The group decided to decorate a battered women's shelter.

Socialization offers a break from a day of learning. Sophomores Korina Kessler and Allison Pierce chat with friends in the cafeteria.

Searching for his books and supplies, Daniel Kassing, a senior, leans into his car trunk. Preparing for school in the morning proved hectic for a number of students.

Explicit Content

Life beyond the building

by Erin Lampe and Nicole Walker

The countdown to the end of the day began promptly when the bell rang at 8:05. Students could not wait to break away from Ms. Beard telling them to spit out their gum and Ms. Boyd saying, "Until your ID is on, you're naked in the eyes of Ritenour." When the countdown was over at 2:50, students gathered their books, left behind their teachers and worries, and were **exposed** to a whole different world.

Even though Mr. Korte constantly encouraged students over the loud speaker to take home books and study, most teachers were smart enough to realize life continued outside of school. After students opened the school's doors, they **revealed** their true selves with an overwhelming variety of activities. Whether it involved filling coolers at Quik Trip, playing Madden on Playstation 2, or even riding on horses at Ace Stables, they **unfolded** their passions in different ways. Students **opened up** to friends and family and took time to breathe in order to relieve the weight that school put on their shoulders every day.

After long and stressful weeks, students took advantage of their days off. The weekend gave students a chance to finally submerge themselves in activities that they truly loved. Friends caught up and families spent time together. Everyone **expressed** their true selves and indulged in their personal lives whether it was through spending time alone reading, writing, or exploring the internet, or getting friends together and going to a party or the movies.

After attempting to balance homework, school activities, and other pastimes, a social life and sleep sometimes seemed like a distant dream. By Friday students were ready to break the regular routine of the school week and found their last bit of energy hard to put toward anything but a long nap or time with others, anything to free themselves of the burden of the week.

Before going on break, junior Bridget Ivy checks out a customer at the Quik Trip at 170 and the Rock Road. Most of the students here worked after school.

After large events, usually three or four people have the job of cleaning up the entire used area. After this particular banquet, senior Alex Klenke's job was to put the tables away.

The man behind the drive-through voice at the Dairy Queen in St. Ann, senior Tommy Frazee, listens carefully to the order at hand. Jobs such as these kept students in pocket money.

"I work for money, not for fun. I want my money when the work is done."

—Jake Clover, 12th grade

"I work through the week because I know when I get my check I'm gonna be happy."

—Chaz Smith, 11th grade

"Playing volleyball is a good way to relieve and work off energy."

—Brittany Anderson, 10th grade

"Baseball teaches me about sportsmanship and helps me get rid of the stress from school."

—Jeff Wright, 9th grade

Within 45 minutes after bike parts arrive at the Northwest Plaza Toys 'R' Us, junior Chris Tate assembles them. He then took them out to customers or the display floor.

Between customers senior Will Glover stands at his register and waits to greet the next guest. In August, Will got his first job at the Bread Company at Northwest Plaza.

Taking orders and serving ice cream is Sarah Cooley's job at Dairy Queen. Blizzards were one of the most popular items she prepared.

Rockin' the stands...

Clashing classes come in masses...

by Nicole Walker and Kristen Rehagen

Monday, September 13, marked the official start of Spirit Week, the days prior to homecoming when students displayed pride for their school. In addition to their normal extra-curriculars, work, and studies, members of each class found time to build floats, get outfits together for dress up days such as pajama bottoms day, hat day, stop light day, dress up day, and the usual orange and black day, and to fight for the much coveted Spirit Stick.

Seniors. *Front Row:* Coaches Justin Scott, Josh McGrotty, Chris Ellis, Chad Gornicz, Josh Wuest, Jeff Nagle. *Second Row:* Kelly Durnin, Amanda Laird, Jennifer Bollmann, Whitney Collins, Jocelyne Williams, Chantal Ambrose, Cara Riley, Erica Beger, Amanda Taylor, Precious Elliott, Kim Wells. *Third Row:* Ali Greco, Jamie DiLorenzo, Brittany Key, Toni Webb, Amanda Necker, Nikki Chamberlain, Tiffany Wittig, Misty Temares, Whitney Shaw, Cortney Dollens, Rachel McNamee. *Fourth Row:* Katie Brown, Crystal Vogelsang, Ce'rise Miller, Kristin Smith, Michelle Aubuchon, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Danielle Howerton, Amanda Reppy, Miesha Ross, Michelle Jacobs, Molly Jennings, DreShawna Hearod, Tiana Lambus, Kim Schmidt.

For junior and senior girls, afternoons and evenings revolved around practices for the annual Powder Puff game. Hours of hard labor culminated in one evening of physical rivalry. Varsity football players got a taste of their coaches' struggles. "Getting the girls to stop talking was hard at practice; they thought they knew everything and didn't trust the coaches," said senior coach Chris Ellis.

But when the game started promptly at 6:00 p.m., the male cheerleaders amused the crowd with their drag routines, and the intensity of competition emanated from the field. Two minutes into the game, Precious Elliott scored the first touchdown to put the seniors on top. But quickly, the juniors struck back with a touchdown by Jackie Greco. After two hours of vying for bragging rights, the seniors came out victorious, with a score of 30-12.

Juniors. *Front Row:* Katie Ayres, Kassie Stillman, Micah Little, Mandi Little, Oahn Trinh, Maddie Demas. *Second Row:* Coach Michael Brown, Ashley Dorton, Dana Cafer, Amber Wildey, Dequinda Allen, Anastacia Troupe, Rosie Bond, Kristyne Van Dalsem, Coach De'Angelo Rodgers. *Third Row:* Coach Bobby Martin, Leah Kern, Chelsea Wuellner, Lauren Stein, Danielle Peterson, Brittany White, Tiffany Stevens, Danielle Criswell, Ashley Woods, Coach Ferriss Nelson. *Fourth Row:* Jessica Vogelsang, Rayneisha Betts, Deidre Woodberry, Erin Cardwell, Jackie Greco, Jordan Brennan, Rachel Gray, Kim Moeller, Amanda Thomas, Kayla Cattage.

Like the varsity football players, the cheerleaders also felt the pressure of trying to coach their sport. "The hardest part about teaching the boys was cooperation; they don't listen, and they do what they want to do," explained Heather Young, who helped coach the junior cheerleaders.

While they succeeded in amusing the crowd, it may not have been for the reasons they intended. "The best part of the game was when Tim Berry fell flat on his face doing a stunt!" said freshman Amanda Klenke. But, senior cheerleaders DeLon Hill and Ryan Walters felt they achieved their goals after they "had to put on makeup and try to fit into tiny skirts."

To cap off the week of preparations for homecoming, the annual Hall of Fame assembly drew a sea of orange and black into the Costilow Field House. In addition to the normal chants of spirited students, the atmosphere shifted as students quieted down and listened respectfully as the new Hall of Fame members were introduced. The inductees included Walter Garrison from the class of 1944, E. Lewis Reid from the class of 1954, Dale Rohman from the class of 1956, Steve Twitchell from the class of 1974, and Ann Hunt from 1956. Each Hall of Famer imparted a message of encouragement. Spirit games roused the crowd again, and by 2:50, the winner of the spirit stick was announced. The gym broke out in an abrupt applause after the Class of 2005 was deemed the winner. "I was so glad that we got the spirit stick. Everyone makes us out to be such a bad class, but we aren't. We pulled together really well. The seniors deserved it," said senior Rory Surtin.

As soon as the assembly ended, leadership students got to work cleaning up the gym and preparing for the dance. The decorations consisted of light posts, city buildings outlined in lights, and gossomer. "It took forever," said sophomore Katie Jennings.

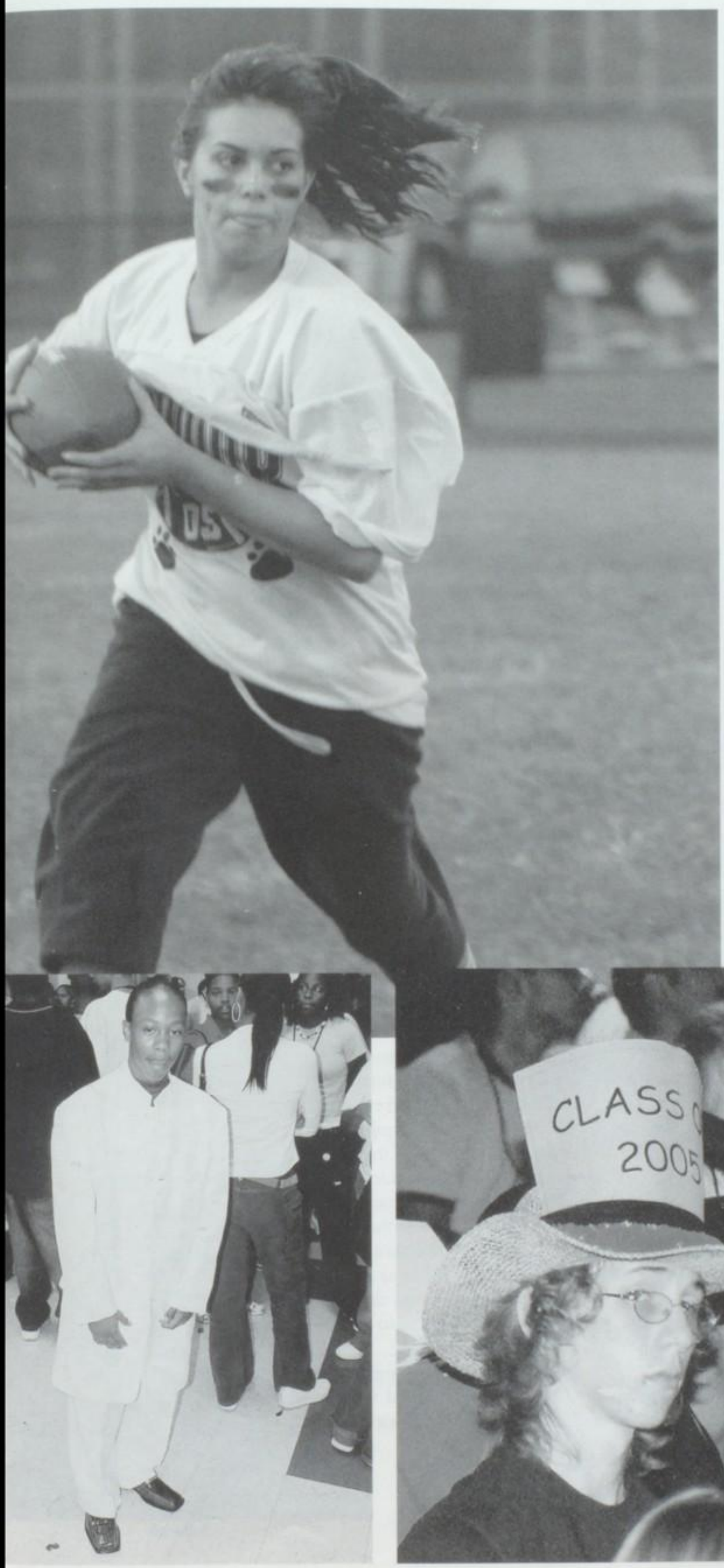
After spending hours constructing the buildings, putting on windows, and stringing up lights, the cityscape was finally ready. Unfortunately, the students soon realized that the lights were not strung correctly and would not plug in, so they had to start over. "Everything just kept falling down like London Bridge," said senior Kim Schmidt.

Even first year Leadership sponsor, Ms. Nilges, admited she was a bit nervous.

Continued on next page

Half an hour into the game, senior Brittany Key, wide-receiver, helps lead the seniors to a victory over the juniors, 30-12.

Clad in formal wear, freshman Antonio Thomas looks dapper on Dress-up day. Other days included pajama day, hat day, and orange and black day.



"My favorite part of cheering was getting kicked in the jaw by Karl Kulaitis!" -Justin Pillarick, 12th grade

"My favorite part was being with a bunch of my friends!" -Larenzo Allen, 11th grade

Every year, Hoech participates in the Homecoming parade, showing their orange and black pride. This transition helped both middle schools get involved in high school activities.

The class of 2008 shows pride through its homecoming float. Despite their efforts, the freshmen came in last place in the float competition.

Showing class spirit, Ian Parmely looks on the fall sports assembly with a watchful eye. The senior class went on to win the Spirit Stick for their orange and black attire and their sportsmanlike conduct.

...And rockin' the Rams

...Spirited students dance in streets

Continued from page 11

"I just wanted to be sure everything turned out well. I wanted to be sure we sold a lot of tickets and that everyone enjoyed themselves, because when you say homecoming, the first thing people think of is the dance. It's the biggest part of homecoming," said Ms. Nilges.

COURT MEMBERS. *First Row:* Steve Cash, Katie Jennings, Katrina Harris, Keith Cambell, Shane Gordon, Jasmine Johnson, Kyle Shepard. *Second Row:* Andy Hedlund, Zach Flaxbeard, Jordan Reifschneider, Shanicia Goston, Kim Wells, Karl Kulaitis, Kristy Johnson. *Third Row:* Jeff Aitken, Justin Davis, Amanda Taylor, Deidre Woodberry, Precious Elliott, Betty Scott (representing her son, Justin Scott), Nikki Chamberlain, Brett Fallon, Aimee Miller. *Not Pictured:* De'Angelo Rodgers.

After everything was finally set up the end the results were satisfying. "It was a good bonding experience," said junior Ryan Mahn. "We were there until ten o'clock at night, so we got to know each other really well."

On Saturday, homecoming day finally started at 9:00 a.m. with a parade around the neighborhood. Floats from every grade and some from school organizations filled the streets while spectators lined up. The main theme of the floats was "Running over the Rams." Spirit flowed through the community as preparations for the game began. A variety of people participated in the parade. From elementary school students to lunch ladies, everyone put their own spin on the given theme. Crowds watched as the participants marched down Brown Road, Lackland, and Woodson. All of the floats were judged by teachers scattered throughout the float route. They judged on both creativity and the enthusiasm all of those who were involved. After the parade ended, some went home to prepare for the dance while others hung around and ate the food that the swim team and the soccer team provided.

After being crowned King and Queen of homecoming, Justin Scott and Precious Elliott head for the dance floor. Other couples joined in once the regal pair had their moment in the limelight.

That afternoon, the varsity football team met the Riverview Rams on Moore Field. At the beginning of the game the winners of the floats were announced. The Overland Lions Club float took first for the community category, Hoech for the middle school/elementary school category, for organizations KRHS and orchestra tied, and the seniors took first place for their class float.

After the game got started, Riverview took the lead and held onto it throughout the game. At halftime, homecoming court, king, and queen were announced and escorted onto the track by people they had previously chosen. Queen, Precious Elliott and King, Justin Scott, were announced last, and the crowd exploded. "I was really excited, happy, and surprised. I felt so loved," said homecoming queen Precious Elliott.

The marching band performed, then marched off of the track, exhausted. "After walking for so long in the parade, no one had the enough energy to play their best," said junior Kassie Stillman. "Everyone was worn down and did not play as well as they could have," agreed senior Jason Moeller. But for the drum line, the performance had not yet ended; they hung out on the track and provided the rest of the entertainment for the fans until the game started again.

All throughout the game, the fans kept cheering their team on, no matter how good the play. "The best part of the game was the safety made by Chris Ellis," said Chad Gornicz.

Evening quickly brought most students back up to the high school for the homecoming dance. The theme was "Dancing in the Streets." Though the set up had its glitches, all went well in the end. "I had fun," said junior Onyee Carter, "The DJ and refreshments were really good." When homecoming court was presented in the middle of the dance, the students lined up on either side of the walkway and applauded for each member. Music played for hours and made the time go by quickly for some. "I had a blast," said senior Justin Carter. "I was a little sad when it was over, though, because it was the last homecoming I would ever be able to go to with all of my friends."

In attempt to make the night last as long as possible, the dance ended with students scrambling to make post dance plans.

Junior De'Angelo Rodgers runs up the middle, observes the block, and finds the hole to make a successful run against the Riverview defense.

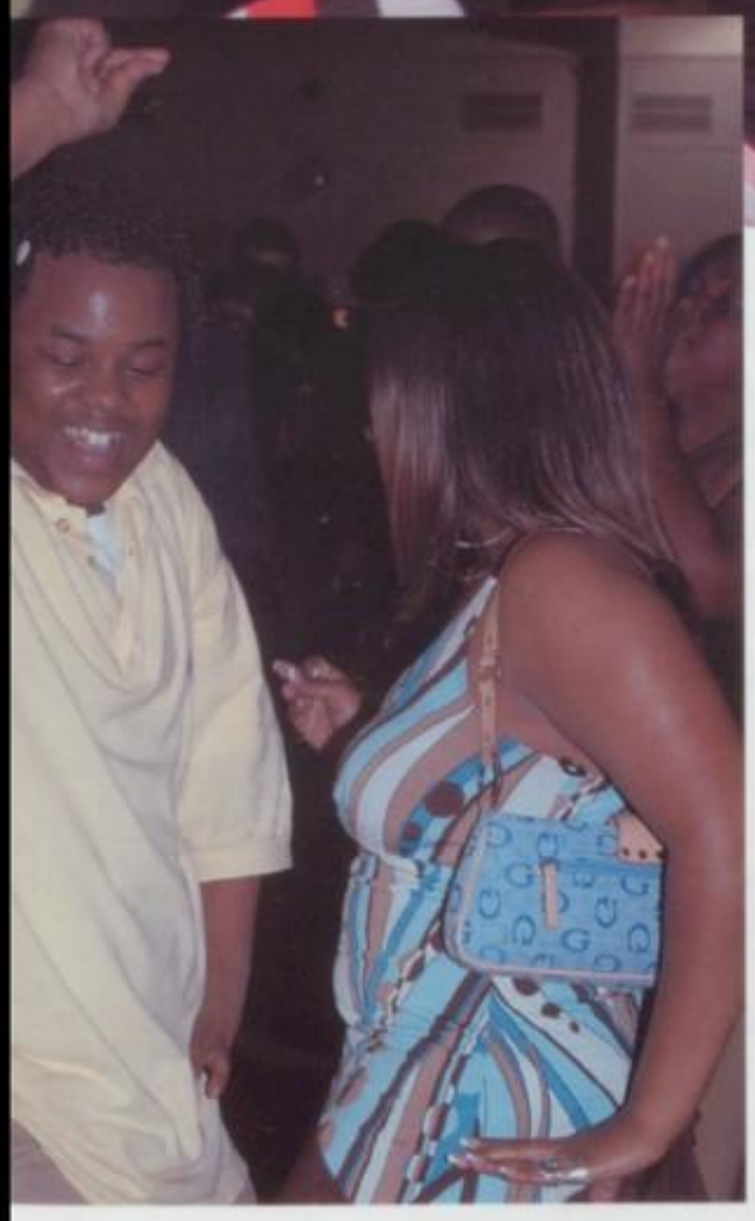
At the dance, junior Nathaniel Johnson works up a sweat dancing with senior Sharonda Luniece.

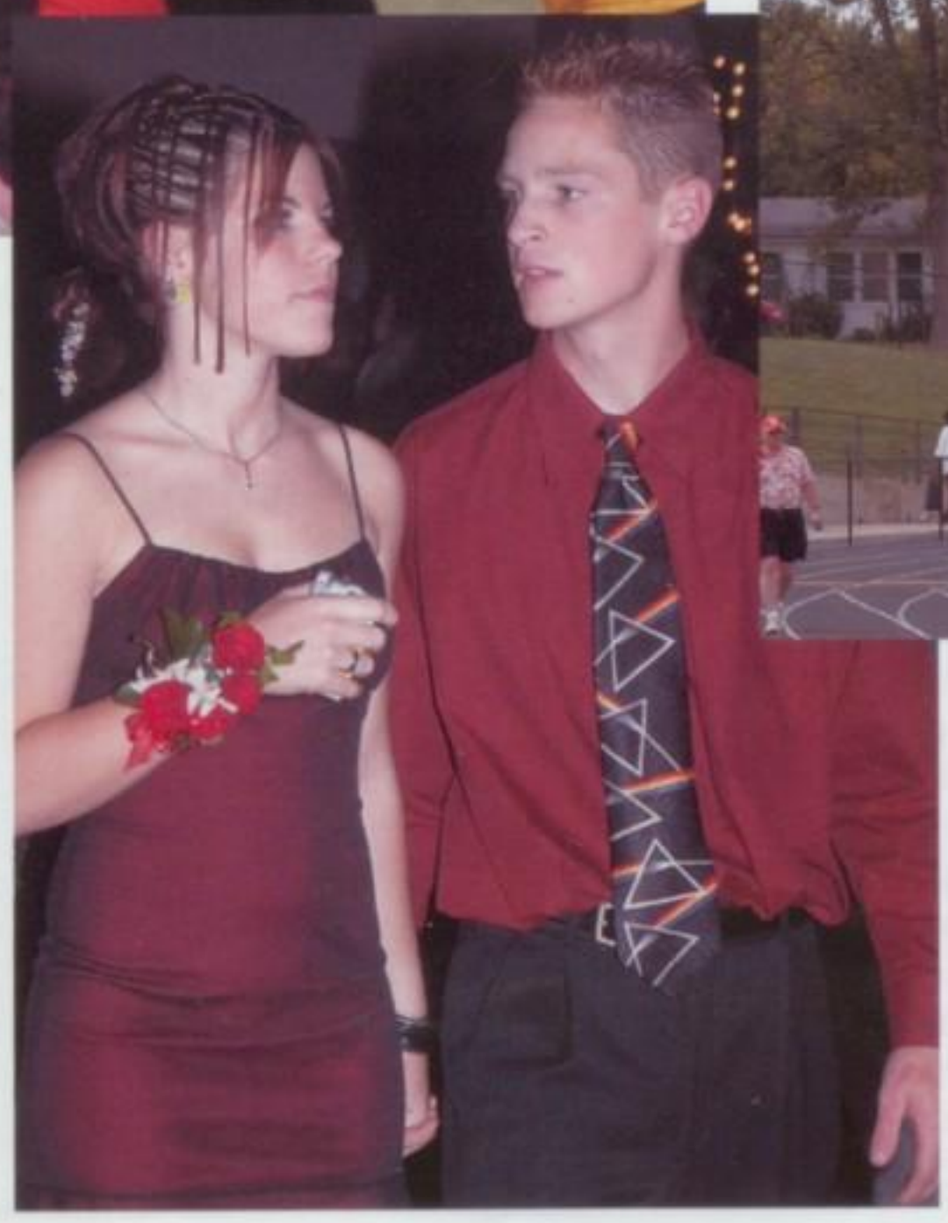
"The dance was awesome! The music was cool and being with all of my friends was fun!"
-Casey Sanborn
9th grade

"It was fun to watch the homecoming court because my best friend won!"
- Brittany Garner
12th grade

The Huskies rip through the banner at the beginning of the homecoming game. Despite the loss, this enthusiasm continued throughout the contest.

Putting her life in the hands of other cheerleaders, senior Cara Riley pulls the arabesque stunt. She helped rouse the crowd at the homecoming game.





Spending the evening with her date, sophomore Tiffany Klingerman introduces Nick Flowers, a Pattonville student, to homecoming at Ritenour.

Effects of the War Hit Home

Supporting absent loved ones

by Chesha Bizan

Tears streamed down the face of a heartbroken student while saying a final goodbye to a relative about to depart for a post in the military. It was a painful realization of how grave a situation the war really was, knowing that never seeing or talking to the loved one again could be a possibility.

Whether their relatives served in America or overseas, several students had family who were fighting in the war, and the absence of a loved one changed some students' lives.

Spending time with his father during leave, Edward Brown enjoys the time they have together. Edward, who had not seen his father in over two years, awaited his father's return from active duty in California.

The mother of sophomore Angel Jackson, a sergeant in the Air Force, has been stationed here in St. Louis at the St. Louis Air Force Base. Although Angel's mom stayed at home and life went on pretty much like normal, the family remained worried about where she may have been sent and for how long she could have been gone. Angel said, "The family is shaken up. We are all thinking she might be shipped off."

The father of freshman Edward Brown, was stationed in Vacaville, California. Edward had not seen his father, a member of the Air force, in over two years. His father's absence had a great effect on him. Edward stated that now instead of going to his dad for advice, he turns to his grandfather. Although, Edward said his grandfather was wonderful, Edward wanted his dad back. "He needs to be at home," said Edward. Every Saturday, Edward and his father wrote letters back and forth.

Graduating from the NCO Academy, John Fohey, father of sophomore April Fohey, receives a plaque stating his promotion from non-commissioned officer. Mr. Fohey was a Tech Officer in the Air Force.

Brad Soderblom, brother of senior, Stephanie Soderblom, was a member of the Marines and was stationed in Iraq for nine months. Having a relative involved in the war helped Stephanie realize how serious the war really was. She sympathized with all the other families who had family in Iraq. At first, contact with him was scarce, but after the war died down a little bit, telephone calls and letters became more frequent, although the internet was always a source of contact for the Soderblom family. Communication occurred about once a month. Overall, the experience of having her brother in Iraq made her support soldiers for what they were doing, and she continued to encourage her brother's comrades who were still struggling in Iraq.

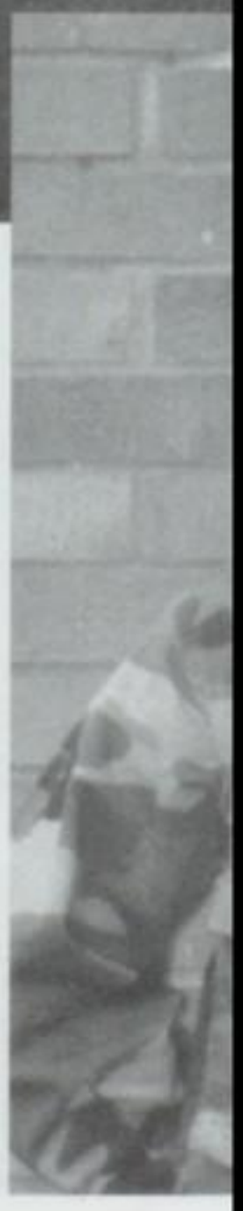
Tyler Levo, alumni of Ritenour and the brother of freshman Ryan Levo and sophomore Mason Levo, recently became a member of the Army National Guard. In September, he departed for boot camp. They heard from him a few times a week through letters, and he called them every so often. Ryan proudly said, "Mason is joining the Army when he graduates, just like Tyler, and I'll probably do the same."

Jeff Pint, cousin of senior Chad Gornicz, was stationed somewhere in Iraq. He was sent over only two months after serving in North Korea for two years. The only contact the family had with Pint occurred every once in a while, when he let them know that he was all right. Pint's family was looking forward to the cessation of the war so he could come home.

Sophomore Robert Jenkins, had not only his father, Michael Jenkins, involved in the military, but his brother, Steven Robinson, as well. Robinson was a tech sergeant stationed in New Mexico while Jenkins was a Chief tech sergeant stationed at Scott Air Force Base. The whole family was worried about them. Robert declared proudly, "We support them one hundred percent." The Jenkins family sent care packages with various "luxuries" and reminders of life back home, with letters and messages from those who loved them.

The war not only affected the many soldiers fighting in it and the Iraqi people who experienced the violence firsthand, but it affected the family members of those people as well. Many of our students voiced concern for all the soldiers who were away from their families because of the war. Yet, despite varying beliefs, we stood united to support students and their absent loved ones.

One of the few times they see each other, senior Stephanie Solderblom visits with her brother, Brad. The internet helped the Soderbloms keep in touch.

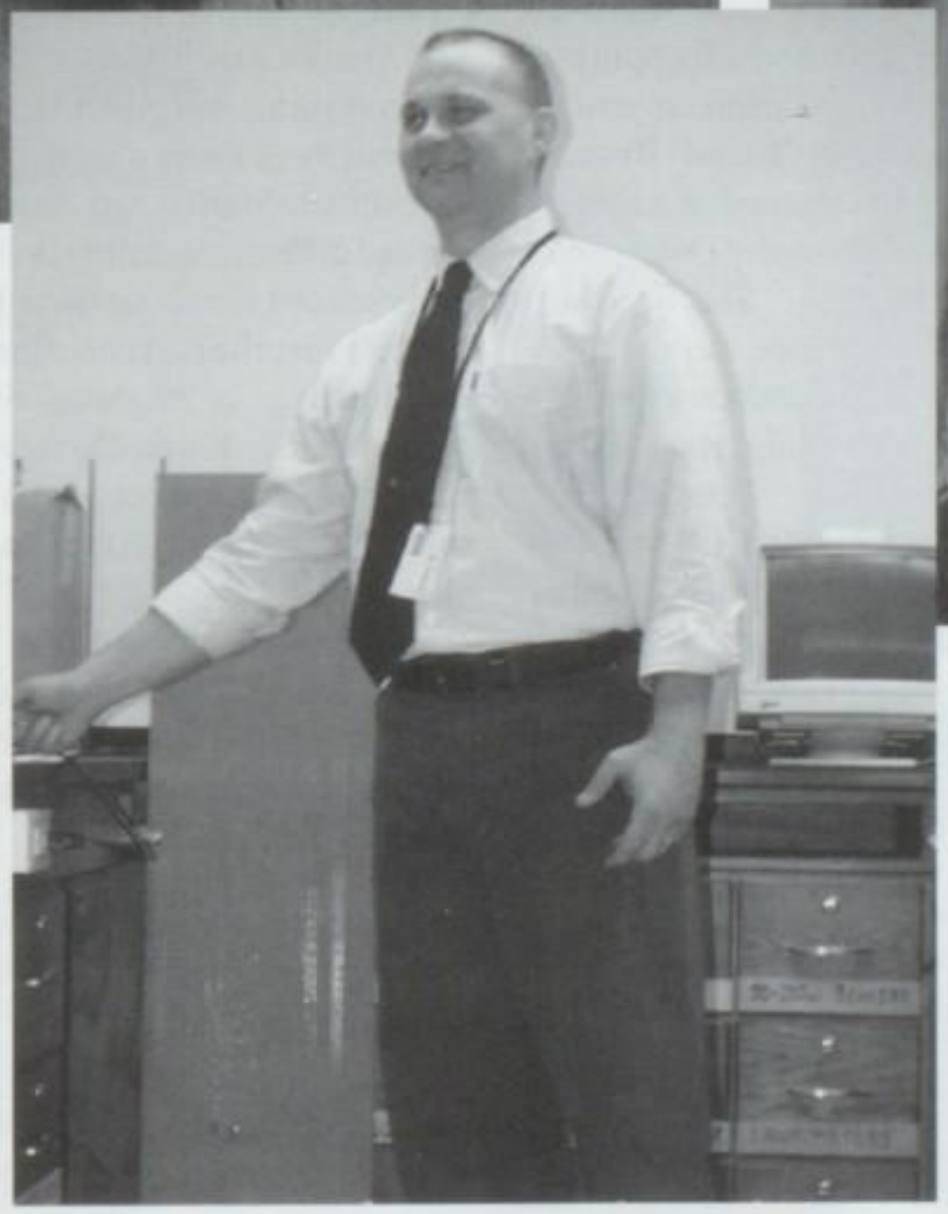


Stationed in Iraq, Jeff Pint, cousin of senior Chad Gorniz, serves active duty as a member of the Army. Pint left for Iraq shortly after serving in North Korea.

"We are worried that she might end up getting shipped off to fight, and so we don't want the war even more."
-Angel Jackson
10th grade

"My look on the war has changed because having a family member in the war makes you realize that people are losing their lives due to silly mistakes."
-Whitnee Watson
12th grade

Aaron Heil, who graduated from Ritenour in 2002, joined the Navy directly after high school. His sister Amanda, who is a sophomore, and freshman brother, Andrew, supported him.



Graduate of 2004 Mike Wolff is in active reserves in California. Wolff served in the Marines.

Returning to his class after being stationed away from home to help with the war during last school year, Science teacher Mr. Rick Rodgers is back and settled. "My main job is taking care of students, but I still have to be a member of the National Guard."

Fine Activities

Finding Your Artistic Niche

by Ashley Scott

After the last school bell for the day rang, students interested in fine arts found clubs and organizations geared toward these activities outside of school. From singing to learning martial arts, students found outlets for their creativity.

Practicing a kick, junior Austin Horton does Tae-Kwon Do. Austin liked the classic form of self-defense.

The *American Idol* phenomenon hit our nation three years ago, but this season, it hit close to home. When tryouts were held in St. Louis, junior Aa'shia Jackson went to the Edward Jones Dome, and said she felt "pretty confident." In spite of this, what was going through her mind, Aa'shia said, was "I'm not your American Idol." While Simon Cowell may have agreed with this thought, judges Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul felt that she should be given a shot, sending her on to Hollywood. Aa'shia said, "When you have the skills, the confidence, and the image, that's all you need. Then, once you get the exposure, it's on!"

In addition to singing, dancing proved another favorite for both creativity and exercise among students. Junior Brittany Hopkin danced at LaVerne Meier School of Dance in her spare time. She had been dancing since she was three years old. Brittany said her favorite thing about dance class was "spending time with my friends." Many of those friends consisted of other Ritenour students such as junior Cindy Pollack. Cindy had been dancing most of her life at LaVerne Meier along with Brittany.

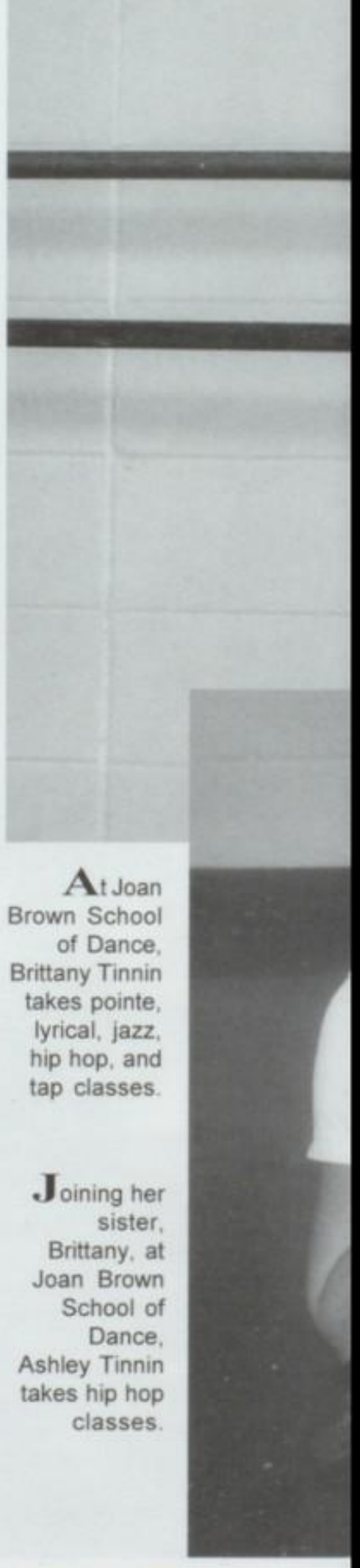
In the beginning of dance class, Cindy Pollack stretches her arm as a part of her warm up. She took lessons at LaVerne Meier, a neighborhood studio.

"We have a lot of fun together at dance!" said Cindy. Together the two dance jazz, tap, pom poms, and ballet. The studio also attended several competitions throughout the year, and at the end of the year, they put on a recital for all their friends and family to come and see their progress. The competition was the site of Brittany's most embarrassing moment while dancing, when she "had just finished our performance and were walking off stage when I tripped in front of everyone! It was so embarrassing!"

Senior Nick Luft felt he had to have been born with a marker in hand. He has loved art ever since he can remember because he grew up with a family of artists. He said, "As far back as kindergarten, my teacher was handing me markers so I would keep drawing." Nick was in numerous art classes, such as Web Graphics and Web Design 2. He said, "I tried to get in as many art classes as I could this year." Nick was even in a class of his own. The class consisted of he and Mr. Appelbaum, and Nick made a portfolio of some of his artwork to give to some colleges he wanted to attend. Nick said that his favorite part about art was to express all his ideas visually.

Junior Austin Horton liked to do Tae-Kwon-do in his spare time. He attended classes about three times a week. Austin went to the Ultimate Martial Arts Academy where he learned different techniques of self-defense. He practiced for about three hours a week. Austin's favorite part about the extra activity was sparring, or "fighting with pads," he explained. Tae-Kwon-Do "is a lot of forms to memorize, and it takes a lot of practice and stretching, and it is a kicking sport, but I really like doing it!"

Across the board, the major reason people seem to love their extra curricular activities was to express themselves. Whether through music, dance, or art, students found their niche.



At Joan Brown School of Dance, Brittany Tinnin takes pointe, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and tap classes.

Joining her sister, Brittany, at Joan Brown School of Dance, Ashley Tinnin takes hip hop classes.

"Dance is fun and it takes a lot of hard work."
-Lizette Nieto, 11th grade.

"I love being able to express the way I feel through the different types of dancing."
-Janell Barnum 12th grade.

When it comes to art, senior Nick Luft does not play. Nick had been drawing since kindergarten and published his artwork in *Reflections*, the literary magazine.

STUDIO 4

With the June recital in mind, Brittany Hopkin and Lizzette Nieto rehearse their jazz routine. Laverne Meier's June recitals were annually held in the Pattonville auditorium.

Best Talent Center (BTC) is a popular dance studio with Ritenour students. Twylaa Taylor started taking jazz and hip hop classes at BTC to perfect her steps.

Backyard Sports

Not For the Weak of Heart

by Josh Wuest

The sun is starting to descend, allowing the day to cool off and enticing everyone to meet in the middle of the neighborhood to start up the usual neighborhood game. Or it is the middle of the day and the sun is beaming overhead while families gather round the barbecue pit. Then, everybody heads to the sand pits to play horseshoes and washers. In either situation, kids and adults alike congregate during the day or nightfall to play backyard sports.

Junior Abby Riebeling and her grandfather spend time together while playing a game of horseshoes and tell each other how their day was. Backyard sports promoted family bonding.

Freshman through senior students enjoyed passing the time with their friends, playing anything from freeze tag to horseshoes. Chad Gornicz, a senior, enjoyed playing a good game of "Kick the Can." The objective of the game was for everybody to hide, except one person who stayed by the can. They had to find someone before the other team kicked the can over, and the number of players was unlimited. "Funniest thing ever was when two kids were running for the can and dove and collided head first. It was seriously the funniest thing I had ever seen!" recounted Chad.

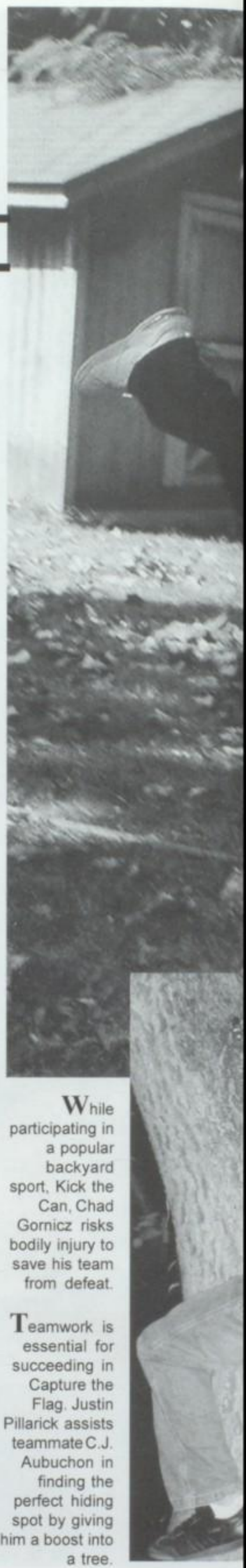
Filling students' closets, sporting equipment is kept there until school is over and the games begin. Senior Jeremiah Wright said, "I have a lot of sports equipment in my closet. From baseball bats, hockey sticks, football equipment, and a pair of roller blades."

Junior Abby Riebeling and her family spent hours playing horseshoes at family get-togethers. Getting "ringers," when the horseshoe wraps around the pole, was the whole object of the game. Abby's favorite part of the game was "beating my grandpa at horseshoes; it was the greatest."

Washers are a game of skill, which is similar to the game of horseshoes. The game consists of two washer pits located opposite of one another, each with a recessed cup that one tries to throw the washers into from the regulation distance. Some terms that can be heard when playing washers are "cupper" and "skunk." A cupper is when a washer lands inside the cup. Skunk is when someone reaches a score of eleven before the opponent scores. The player with zero points is eliminated from further playing for that game. Freshman Mike Hill enjoyed playing washers. "It may be dorky, but it is a fun way to do something constructive and fun while hanging out with friends and family." Washers may not be the most physically demanding game but is equally as challenging. "I always win against my friends; it is so awesome," stated Mike.

Capture the Flag was another favorite game among students. Junior Maddie Demas and friends loved the game. She was introduced to the game from older friends. What made the game unique was the fact that players could hide any object as a flag. The game demanded so much enthusiasm and strategy that the students would play for hours ,according to Travis Burkes and Justin Pillarick. According to Maddie Demas, the most interesting moment during the game was when "Tessa Wilson was running across the field and stepped in a big hole and twisted her ankle."

No matter what backyard sport one likes to play, there was always an opportunity for an adventure over the weekend or after school. Having a good time with friends and family was all that mattered to these students. So whether they liked to kick it, hide it, chase it, or throw it, they just had fun playing in the privacy of their own backyard.

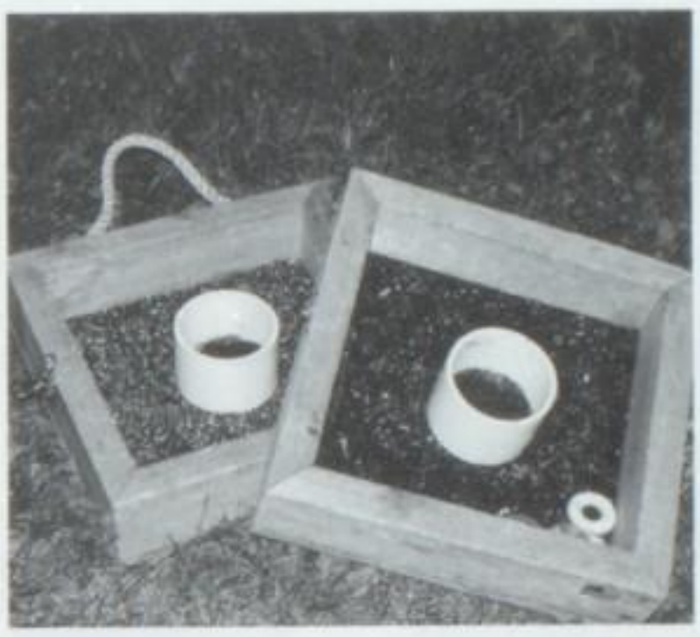


While participating in a popular backyard sport, Kick the Can, Chad Gornicz risks bodily injury to save his team from defeat.

Teamwork is essential for succeeding in Capture the Flag. Justin Pillarick assists teammate C.J. Aubuchon in finding the perfect hiding spot by giving him a boost into a tree.

"My most memorable moment I have ever had playing washers was when my friend and I played our moms and beat them terribly."
-AmandaTaylor, 12th grade

"In a student versus cop game of paintball, I was trying to lean out from behind a baracade and Office Rackers shot me square in the back of the knee."
-William Glover, 12th grade



Washers often surface at BBQ's and family get-togethers. These boxes constructed with wood, Astroturf, and PVC pipe entertained families throughout the district.

Backyard sports, such as Capture the Flag, often bring friends closer together. Brian Williams and Justin Pillarick celebrated their victory.

Outrunning her sister, Maddie Demas tries desperately to save the ball. Capture the Flag could be played with any object.

Outspoken

Bilingual students bridge barrier between cultures

by Kristy Johnson

America is home to a diverse mix of people; after all, it has been affectionately deemed the "melting pot" of the world. Every country and continent is represented in the population of our nation. Nearly all of its habitants are descendants of immigrants from all over the world. Many of us have lived in America our whole lives. However, others were only the first or second generation in their family to live in America.

ESL students work in workbooks that contain assignments and activities to help improve their English. Since he understood the given assignment, Isreal Loza worked unassisted and completed his work before the end of class.

Numerous students hailed from other countries. Even with having to adapt to a different culture, it was important to not lose touch with the heritage they already had. Freshman Mohammed Jaber said, "I still have to do more religion stuff than other kids here, like praying five times a day, and I have to punish myself if I do something I'm not supposed to do."

After listening to Ms. Kubicek explain punctuation, sophomore Kadjo Kavi toils on the assignment. Having Ms. Kubicek as a resource contributed to students' understanding.

Senior Diana Murillo said her dad still teaches them lessons of their culture every day: "My dad quizzes us every day in the morning. He makes a big deal about the fifth of May and makes sure we know exactly what is special about that day. He makes sure that even though we are learning the history of America at school, we are still learning the history of Mexico at home."

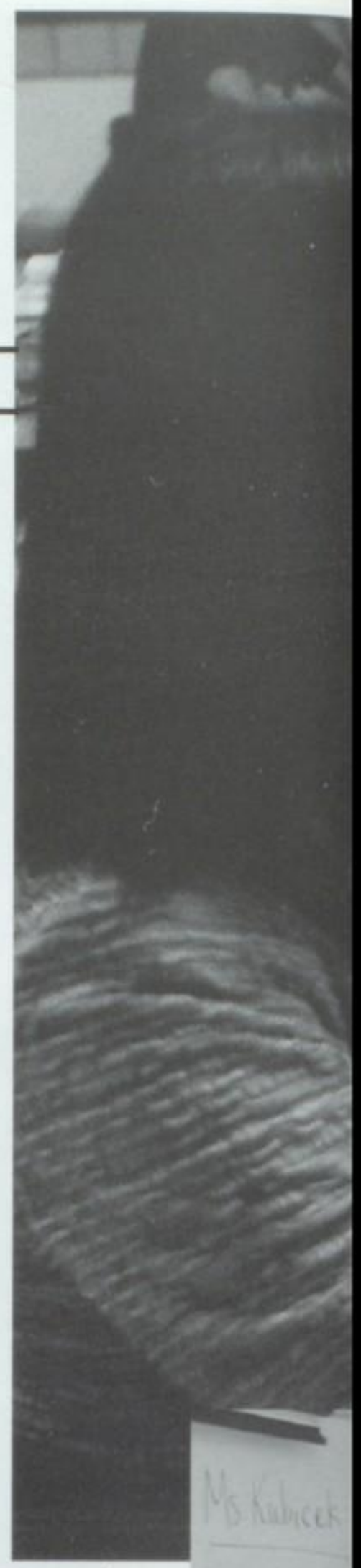
A big barrier when moving to another country was the language. "The hardest part of moving to America for me was to learn the language, because all I knew before was Spanish," said junior Jorge Martinez.

To help students overcome this barrier, Ritenour had English as a Second Language classes (ESL), where students learned English and American culture. Most students who moved here from other countries did not know any English at all, and ESL provided them with a way to spend most of their time at school with other students who were adapting to America at the same time. Senior Lucy (Huong) Vu said, "I learned English in school with ESL, and my friends helped me out a lot, too, because most of them grew up here. I hardly talk to other Vietnamese kids because there aren't that many around here."

Conversely, freshmen Riham Jaber moved here nine years ago because her dad took over the family business. She said, "I learned how to read and write at the same time as everyone else, so it was not that big of a deal for me. I never felt that much different from anyone else because of it."

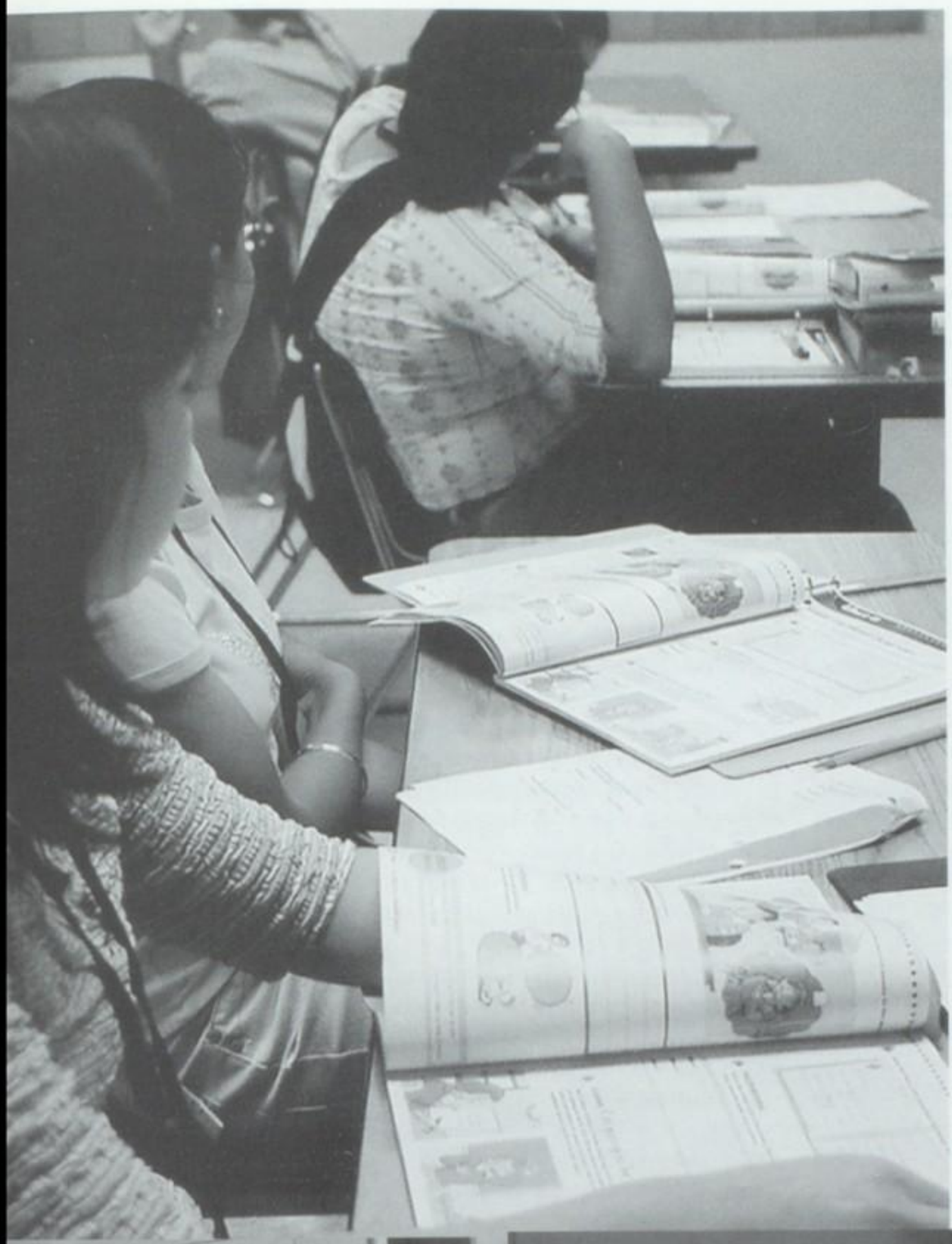
Some students had parents who did not speak any English, so they found themselves having to translate quite often. Knowing English when their parents did not worked to their benefit sometimes. Diana said, "In middle school, I used to always lie to my mom when teachers would call if I got in trouble." Jorge also used his talents to help him out on one occasion: "One time a teacher called because I got an F, and my parents don't speak English, so I told them it was a telemarketer."

People immigrate to America every day from every nook and cranny of the world. It is a big shock moving anywhere, having to relate to the new people and places, but most of all the culture and language. Part of being an American is being able to say that you are proud to call this country your home no matter where you come from. Lucy Vu said, "I was born In Vietnam, but I like it here better. I do not want to ever go back, except to visit family some day. Life was much harder there. America is my home now."



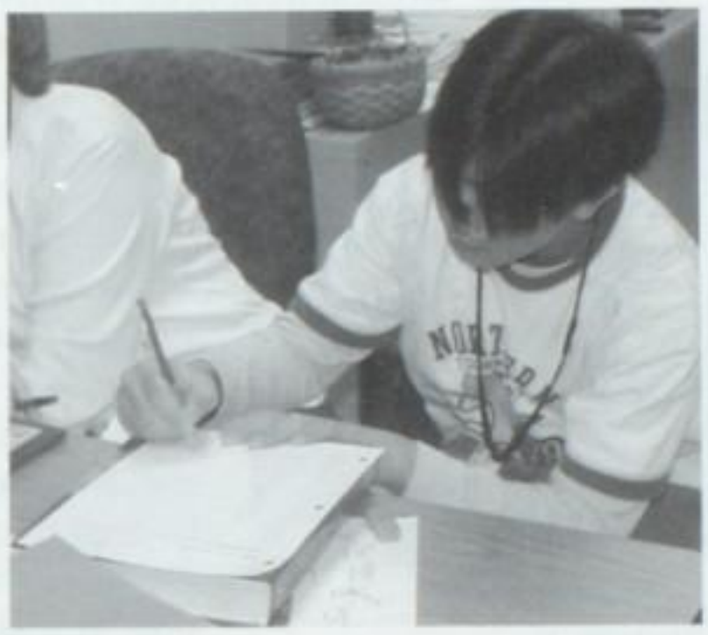
At the beginning of class, junior Amy Vong listens to the day's lesson plan before Ms. Kubicek assists the class in the assignments.

After finishing her work, sophomore Deepinder Grewal tutors a friend so that she can complete the assignment.



"One thing I like about American society is the driving age is a younger age. Where I used to live, you couldn't get your permit until you were 18."
-Riham Jaber,
9th grade

"One thing I like about teenage society in America is there is more freedom."
- Jorge Martinez,
11th grade



Working quickly on an assignment, freshman Jason Vong hurries to finish. After students finished their work, they had time to socialize until the bell rang.

Studying intently, sophomore Erendida Ramirez hurries to complete her assinment in class so she will not have homework. The extra time to work sometimes helped students avoid mounds of homework.

Pointing out something in his book, freshman Jose Hernandez shares the information with others. Students received daily points for class participation.

Reading Disorders?

Compulsive Readers Surface

by Tonia O'Neal

Books were back! Students of all grade levels revealed the reasons why they read during their free time instead of plopping down in front of the television. The reading they did was not for homework, either; it was for amusement. Whether it was after homework, before dinner, or before bedtime, if it was fantasy, horror, or comedy, many students found reading a pleasure.

Reading allows students to express themselves and relieve stress. Kyle Saeuberlich loved to "get away" once in a while in mystery novels.

With all the homework and after school practice, finding time to curl up with a good book was not as impossible as it seemed. "I work everything around reading. I eat when I read, I listen to music when I read, and, if it were possible, I would sleep when I read," said freshman Amanda Barnhart.

On the other hand, reading every second of the day was not a possibility for sophomore Brittney Curtis, as she confirmed, "I find time to read on weekends, because I don't have time during the week." Reading was also used to pass the time at detentions and during down time after a teacher's lecture. Freshman David Sabin said, "I read a lot when I am in trouble."

Sports reading leads some to spend free time in the library. Senior Keith Cobbs checked up on the history of basketball.

What kindled and inspired this need for the written word? Senior Jason Moeller explained, "When my parents read to me, they inspired that love for reading, and I started to read whatever I could get." For others, it was more than parents' encouragement that has kindled this fondness for literature. Freshman David Sabin stated, "My teacher encouraged me to go to the library and read books. The books I read were interesting, and I got hooked. So, of course, I had to read more." School and family were influences, but not the only influence. Senior David Claffy said, "I started to read simply because I wanted to, and I went on to read more because I found it fun."

An enjoyable series was motivation enough to read for freshman Amanda Barnhart. She explained, "I started to read Harry Potter, from the first chapter I was hooked, and then I read anything I could get my hands on. Mostly fantasy, because I really like the idea of worlds where anything is possible."

A good plot keeps freshman David Sabin reading, "Eragon. It was such a great book with such a great plot with an exciting climax."

Senior Jason Moeller commented on his favorite book, "Ghost Soldiers. It is very well written and tells an interesting story. As well as Star Wars. I am a big fan of Star Wars."

Brittney Curtis enjoyed, "Romance, because it is so much drama with mystery, action, and every other style." Another reason students liked to read was because of the way the story impacted them.

Senior David Claffy confirmed, "I read because I want more knowledge, plus I like to read a lot of poetry due to how it makes me feel."

Reading can be used to make the time go by faster. Senior Jason Moeller said he read "at night after dinner, when I need to pass the time." To pass the time was not the only reason students choose to read, there were also benefits to reading during down time. It helped a few students with their grades. Senior David Claffy said, "I like to read books about history, wars, and such, which really prepared me for Social Studies." Freshman Amanda Barnhart said, "I had a hard time in class but my grades improved when I started reading."

Influenced by parents and school, students were able to find their own style of book. If it was fiction or non- fiction, humor or dismay, fantasy or down to earth reality, it did not matter; students still took pleasure in reading, opposed to some other activities.

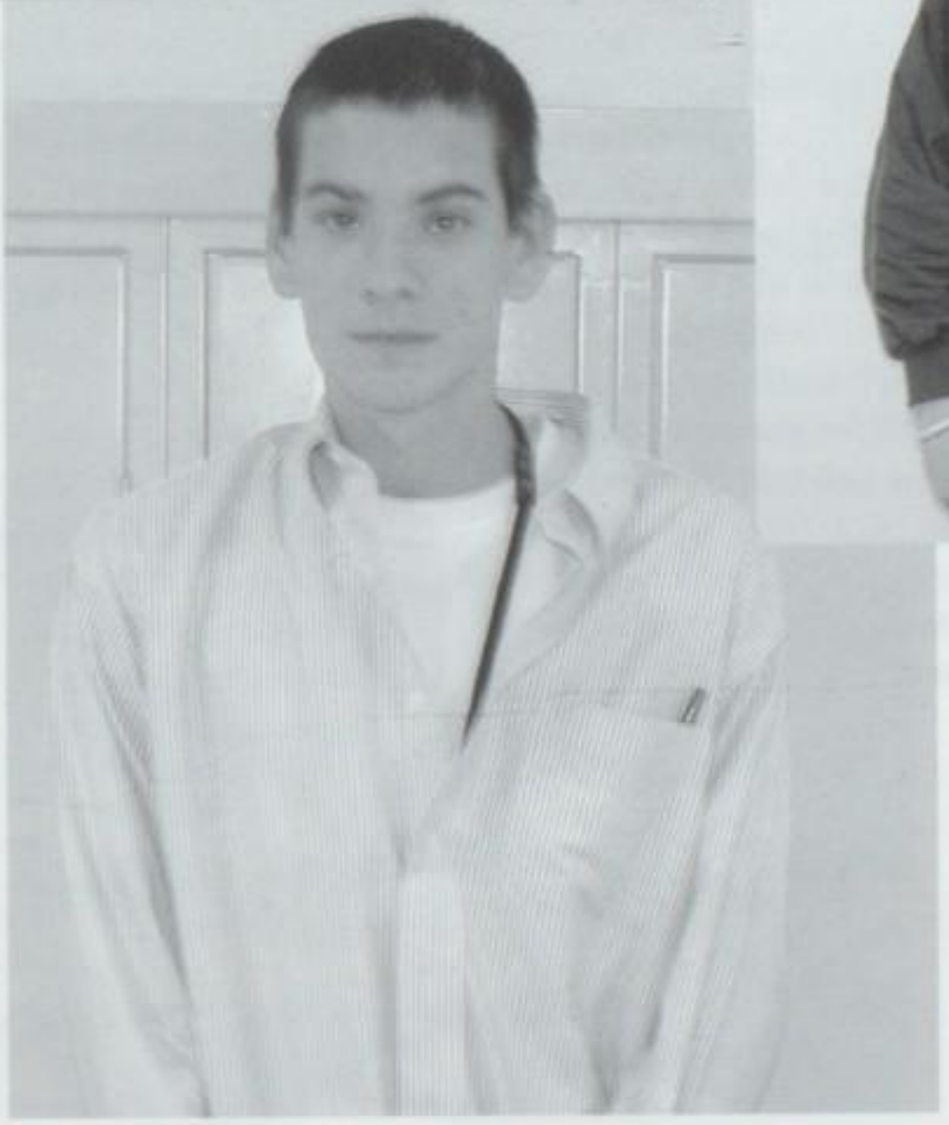
Television has become such a part of everyday life that teens often forget what reading has to offer. Sophomore Brooke Stone let her imagination soar.

Reading helps relieve the stresses of student life. Freshman Phi Trinh did a little reading after a tough math class with Coach Alferman.

A good ghost story now and then can stimulate the mind and let the imagination go to a whole new level. Sabrina Ellis sat down to Amy Gerstlers' Ghost Girl.

Having the ability to read and comprehend material is necessary for the success of students. Freshman Delector Swanigan got in a little reading after class.

When he is not practicing his music, senior Jason Moeller loves to indulge himself in leisure reading.



Inspiration from many books has helped senior David Claffy write many lyrics for his band, Adeline.

Daily reading helps improve skills. Freshman Dave Sabin kept up his reading so he could further his studies more easily.

Down and Dirty

Getting Grungy For A Reason

by Molly Jennings

Broken cars. Leaky faucets. Busted cabinets. What did you do when these occurred? A) Get your tools and try to fix them yourself? B) Call your neighborhood Mr./Ms. Fix-it? C) Call upon your peers?

While calling a professional may be tempting, students performed tasks that many others considered pesky.

Construction working is one of junior Charles Lee's hobbies. Charles attended North County Tech and hoped to one day be a construction worker and build houses.

Senior Kyle Smith worked on cars, electronics, plumbing, and carpentry for six years. By learning these skills from his dad, he fixed anything broken at home. According to Kyle, there was frustration; however, "having a sense of accomplishment" made the work well worth it.

Freshman Brandon Silvers fixed anything electric. Because he could get things done and he knew that he fixed something, he said, "I like to work with electronics; if something is broken I have to fix it; I like to improve stuff." Brandon repaired electronics like radios, amps, and speakers.

Checking the radiator hose on his '73 Plymoth Duster, senior Cody Hawthorne does what he loves best. Cody worked on cars for six years; his favorites were race cars.

On the other hand, junior Charles Lee and freshman Patrice Nalls preferred doing hands-on projects. Charles attended North County Tech and built frames for houses, as well as model houses and other small projects. For Charles, the most rewarding part was "knowing you built something by yourself."

Patrice began building crafts about a year ago. Her favorite project was making birdhouses. The best part of building things for her was "I know I made something and I can sell it."

In addition, seniors Lee Faucett and Cody Hawthorne did an assortment of mechanical work. Both students intended to turn their passions into careers. Cody and Lee went to North County Tech where they took apart the body of cars, reconstructed them, and replaced broken parts. Inspired by his father, Lee said, "he told me that doing something you love to do is always worth it, and for me that's auto-body."

With this inspiration, Lee wanted to go to college and one day own a business. As opposed to working on everyday vehicles, Cody worked on race cars. His dad also inspired this passion six years ago; when they bought a friend's race car and fixed it up. For Cody and his dad, this became a positive learning experience, and Cody was able to do something "no one else does."

Senior Heather Roush has loved cars for as long as she could remember: "it is all I have ever known; my dad does it." Aside from doing auto collision at North County Tech, she had worked as an auto mechanic for six years. Although she had a rewarding feeling of a job well done, Heather did not like the pressures of being a female in the auto mechanics world. Through auto mechanics, however, Heather learned to "deal with my stresses. I'll stick with it because I like to do it; to prove to people I can do it." Heather was accepted to Lincoln Tech Institute and intended to leave for school the following August.

Like birds making a nest, these students adored making and building things. They did not mind building, rebuilding, or even fixing objects that they were passionate about. Think of classmates the next time there is a broken car, leaky faucet, or a busted cabinet.

Working in her garage on her 1976 Corvette, Heather Roush said, "I like the smell of the grease, I like the feel of the grease, and I like the feeling of completion."

Making sure cars run and horns beep, senior Lee Faucett works hard to locate the problem.

"Construction makes money and helps build the world."
--Charles Lee, 11th grade

"I just like to build because I like to use my hands. I build bird houses."
--Patrice Nalls, 9th grade

Checking the ignition on a car is just one thing senior Kyle Smith does. Kyle also fixed "pretty much anything."

Freshman Brandon Silvers fixes electronic such as computers, radios, amps, and speakers.

Using his mechanical skills on a 2000 Chevrolet S10 truck, senior Lee Faucett gets lost under the hood. Lee knew just what the problem was.

Flashback

Recapture your childhood

by Rachel Valdez

Spiderman. Care Bears. Ninja Turtles. Shining Time Station and Speed Racer. What was all this hype with cartoons and characters we once placed in the Hall of Fame of Retired Cartoons? Suddenly, childhood dreams were hitting us all over again, and excitement rushed over our bodies similar to the days when we turned on the televisions in our footsie pajamas, with a bowl of Cocoa Puffs. Raphael, Wolverine, Elmo, and Love-A-Lot were just a few of the characters that caused unexpected moments of nostalgia. A new wave of popularity among 80's and early 90's era cartoons stormed our school.

Being on television, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles catch many student eyes. Senior Sam Winter showed his devotion to the cartoon by wearing his official Ninja Turtle gear while playing the part.

From minor entertainment to complete obsession, the cartoon craze that hit had a huge impact on various parts of our culture. Our fashion was dripping with retro vibe and even more retro characters. Tee-shirts were riddled with anagrams of Strawberry Shortcake, the vintage character Mario, and Star Wars characters, such as Yoda. Our box office hits were comic book characters from way back, such as Spiderman, The Hulk, and The Punisher. We began seeing more and more beloved heroes from our early years reviving themselves and coming to defend their titles once again. Senior Shauna Moore became obsessed with Spiderman just a few years ago. By her junior year she was completely hooked with the web-slinger, she said, "Everything is Spiderman; my ENTIRE room is Spiderman!"

Returning from the discontinued show, red-headed Strawberry Shortcake becomes popular again. She adorned pillows, blankets, and school supplies.

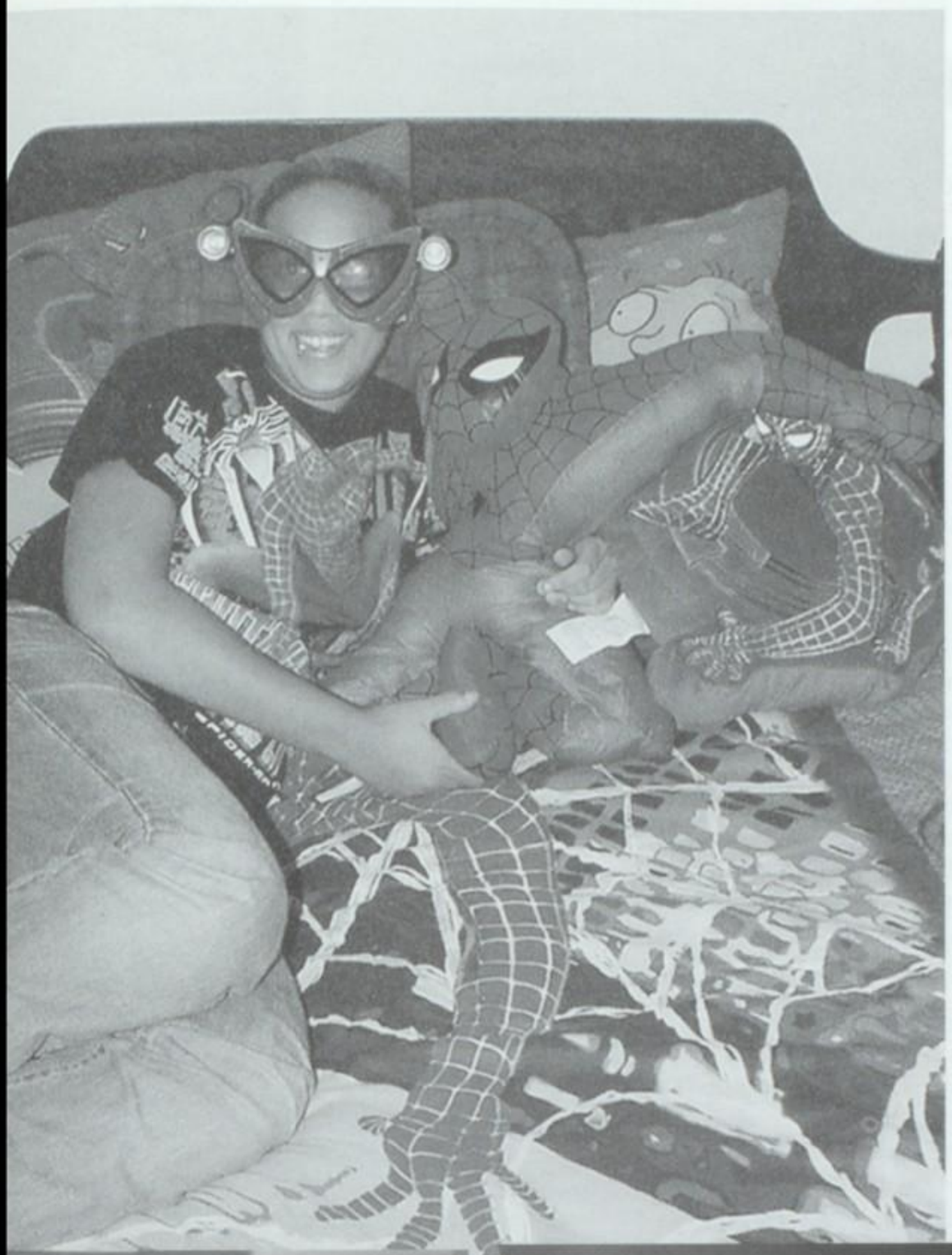
Doremon, an old anime cartoon from Japan, also came back. Sophomore Andrew Collins used to live in Taiwan and got hooked on Doremon then. He said that even though he especially liked Doremon, the entire anime genre was cool because "they have different morals of the stories that keep it interesting." Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles also returned to TVs and store shelves. Freshman David Sabin said he used to love watching the crazy, pizza-eating reptiles, and added that he would probably still watch them if they were on air. Other classics included Superman, Wonder Woman, Batman, and X-Men.

The cuter, more innocent characters that embraced the lighter side of our culture also resurfaced. Junior Carrie Whitcomb loved the Care Bears since her early days. She said it all originated because of a nickname, "Being named Carrie, I was easily called Care Bear." My Little Pony was also seen stampeding around the hallways, and in fashion, on everything from school supplies, to apparel, to room decor. Even though they were a far cry from the pizza-eating, karate-fighting Ninja Turtles who will never go out of style, they were quintessential to our culture. This was because our life may not have been all rainbows and bunnies all the time, but it was at least some of the time, like at 8 a.m. on a Saturday.

Who knows why the cartoons we once curled up to with a bowl of Cocoa Puffs in the morning became popular again? Maybe it was a sensation of clinging to our last bit of childhood; maybe it was because we just liked to have one comfortable and familiar thing in a world that could, at times, be very chaotic and scary; or maybe it was just fun.

Clothes, toys, and bedspreads are a few types of Spiderman gear. Senior Shauna Moore decorated her bedroom with Spiderman.

Care Bear fan Ashley Coleman, a senior, carries all her school supplies needed for each school day in her Care Bear book bag. Ashley's was not the only cartoon backpack in the halls.



"I am into Care Bears because of my name. Being named Carrie, I was easily called Care Bear."
--Carrie Whitcomb, 11th grade

"I am into anime because it's an action thriller and it catches my eye."
--Andrew Collins, 10th grade

All types of Care Bear gear infiltrates the hall. Wallets with the Care Bear logo surfaced throughout the cafeteria.

Popular character Spiderman is back as a smash hit. Spiderman 1 came out in 2001, and the second came out in the summer of 2004. The Spiderman craze was going strong since then, and students went out buying gear, including the stuffed doll.

Cuddling with Strawberry Shortcake is a common pastime. Sophomore Ashley Smith always kept her stuffed Strawberry Shortcake doll by her side.

New Faces in Drama

Cast and New Director produce Fools

by Erin Lampe

Opening night, the spotlight is burning, the audience is anxious, and the big question is: Who is more nervous, the cast or the director? The play Fools was the big introduction for Ms. Cavanagh, who taught drama for two years at Ritenour Middle School and two years at Hazelwood Central. She became the theatre director because, "I have to have my hand in EVERYTHING, and I love seeing my visions coming out on stage."

After looking for her sheep, freshman Christina Krug points out where the Count lives. Throughout the play, actors played forgetful fools due to a spell cast on them.

The play was centered around "idiots." Junior Dru Tate explained, "The town that they live in is under a curse and the only way for the curse to be reversed is if a school master can teach anything to at least one person. Another way to break the curse would be if a young girl, Sophia marries into the family that originally cursed the town." Dru is also making his acting debut. Ms. Cavanagh chose this play because, "Neil Simon is an excellent writer, and the play is very funny and really easy, so the students can have a good time with it!"

During the play, junior Tramez Roberson and senior Nicole Walker share a sentimental moment. He attempted to force Nicole to fall in love with him.

The cast was excited to be working with such a great director. Junior Tramez Roberson said, "she is a professional and always keeps us focused on the task at hand." Tramez snagged the lead in his first play, "I almost had a heart attack, but I feel blessed; there were a lot of broken hearts." There were many new faces in the cast besides Ms. Cavanagh. Christina Krug, the only freshman to make the cast, felt very fortunate. "I beat out a lot of upperclassmen that were better than me, but I'm glad that she gave me a chance to be part of the show." Senior Michael Hohman felt that "the cast was awesome, and I really liked it. It felt like the more that I rehearsed, the dumber that I got."

The cast toiled at rehearsals after school from three to five for weeks to ensure that the play would be error-free. Student director Christina Andrade, a junior, was extremely proud that the play was enjoyable. "It is as much of a thrill to see it all pay off from back stage as it is to be in the spotlight, and a lot cooler." Christina was student director of the one acts last year, but she thought that it was easier because she knew everyone this time and knew more about what she was doing. "Overall, the play ran smoothly and it turned out fine."

Larenzo Allen, also a junior, said that he had fun working on the play but claimed, "I wish that we had more time, but I liked it. The play reminded me of everyday life."

"The play was a resounding success. The hard work definitely paid off, and the play was amazing. Afterward friends and family gave their congratulations to the cast and crew and Ms. Cavanagh for the outstanding job on her first play, and we look forward to many more outstanding performances," explained senior Matt Bartlett.

Giving a not so regular eye exam Dr. Zubritzky, played by junior Nick Scotino, informs the magistrate, junior Dru Tate, he is in perfect health.

Taking time before the play to focus and collect his thoughts, junior Tramez Roberson awaits a curtain call.

"Working with the new director was differen, but interesting. Overall, I enjoyed working with the play." -Mike Hohman, 12th grade

"I thought the actors did an incredibly good job. the audience enjoyed it. Everybody learned a lot, including me." -Ms. Cavanagh

The villain of the play, Count Yoskevitch, played by junior Larenzo Allen, insists that the town's curse of stupidity will never be lifted. The Count was later proven wrong, and when the town regained its intelligence, he was forced to flee town.

At night rehearsal, the crew gets out the sound board and light equipment. Student director, junior Christina Andrade, tested the mics before she gave them to the cast to make sure that they worked properly.

After getting her makeup done, Megan Jones, a junior, goes over her lines before show time. The cast rehearsed for weeks to ensure a quality performance.

Mature Audiences

Responsibilities displayed Through Achievements

by Cortney Dollens and Chesha Bizan

She hurriedly rushed to her car only to sit in fifteen minutes of traffic. The construction set her back and she had to skip the usual stop at home for a quick break. Making it just on time, she arrived at Buder Elementary to pick up Billy, and then she sped to drop him off at day care. Immediately after, she jetted off to work at Dairy Queen. After nearly six hours of hard work, she was exhausted. Knowing that there were bills that needed to be paid was the only thing that kept her going. While this may sound like a day in the life of an adult, this is actually the routine of many high school students. The student body showed an increase in maturity and responsibility by taking on more duties and responsibilities outside of school that have proven them to be a part of the mature audience.

Students took on more responsibilities, including helping out with siblings and getting a job of their own. Senior Whitney Shaw had a busy year not just ensuring success in her last year of high school, but out of school as well. She explained, "I would drive my little sister home from school, and I would work about three days a week, so I'd have to try and get homework done before I went to work." Steven Duncan, a sophomore, also had an early start into adulthood. "I would pick up my little brother from the bus stop and watch him while my mom was away," he described. Not only did he take more responsibility for his family, but Steven also began his job cutting grass for a fixed price.

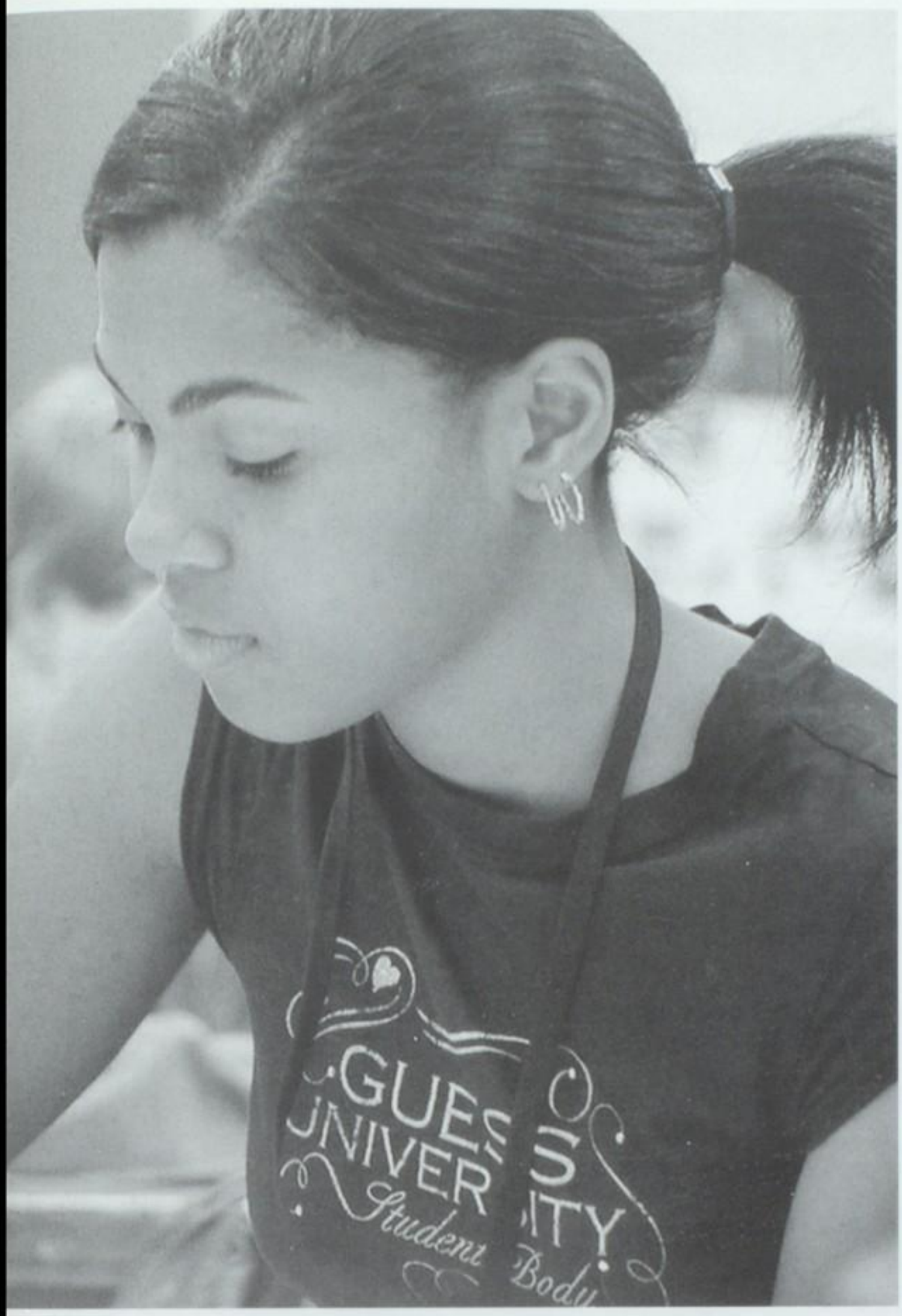
Many students had to begin the inevitable burden of paying for their own things. Instead of turning to their parents for extra cash, they took on the task of money management. Junior Kassie Stillman learned how to manage her money from all of the three jobs she took on. She paid for her car, phone, and any school activities that required payment. Kassie paid for "basically anything beyond a necessity." Similarly, Whitney also listed the things she paid for: car payments, car insurance, clothes, and anything she wanted to do for fun. Anything she needed, she paid for some part of it, if not all. Steven paid for anything he wanted as well, including clothes, games, and even things for his brother.

All of the students had to balance their lives inside of school with their outside lives. Steven chose to focus on one thing at a time, whereas Kassie followed the idea of multi-tasking. She would take her homework to work, and stay up late after a night of work to complete her work for school. Whitney took a more laid back approach. She explained, "It's hard, but I have to learn that everything isn't going to be perfect and I have to relax and have fun." No matter how each student handled their added responsibilities, they had to become a member of the mature audience a little early.

While in Foods and Nutrition class, senior Christina Turner and sophomore Tegan Gatlin practice their cooking skills. Food preparation proved to be a skill students utilized later in life.

Preparing himself for the ACTs, senior Justin Davis uses his time in Acheiva to study. Seniors like Justin used Acheiva to hone their skills in order to excel on this crucial test.

Gazing at her soon-to-be masterpiece, junior Benetta Lovings takes pride in her artistic talents. Art offered Benetta and her classmates an opportunity to express their feelings through their artwork.

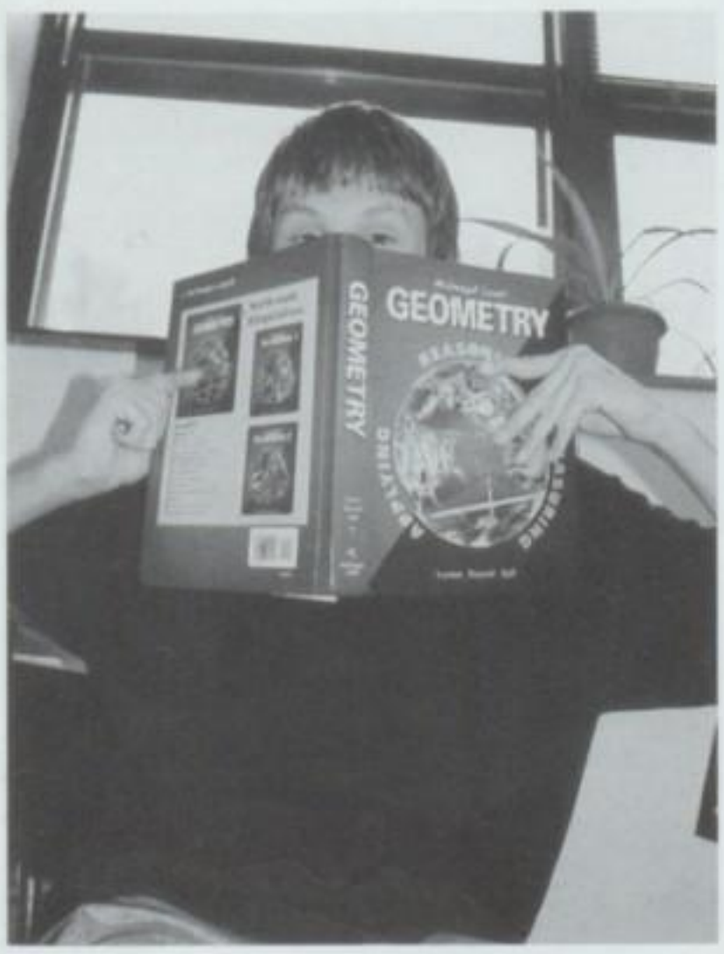


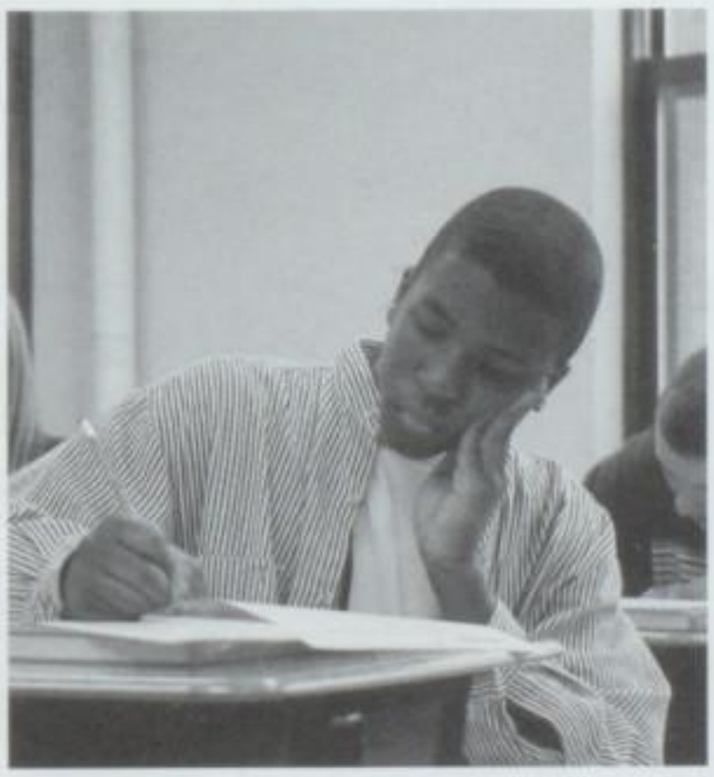
"I help my brother with his homework and pick him up from school. I cook my family dinner almost every night. I also help baby-sit other people's kids, and I take care of my great-grandma."
- DeQuinda Allen, 11th grade

"I help my uncle run his Internet business. I have many responsibilities around the house, like dishes and vacuuming."
- Steve Freund, 11th grade

"I work about 20-30 hours a week. At home, I do lists of chores like taking out the trash and cleaning the garage. I help my grandparents out a lot by just helping out around the house and running errands for them."
- Brett Fallon, 12th grade

Practicing her techique, senior Turquoise Mabon records her instructions before beginning her project. Careful note-taking led to less revision.





Peering over his geometry text, sophomore Mike Feldewerth shows that some students can be found with their nose in a book. In geometry, students learned to calculate angles of various shapes and how to compose step-by-step proofs.

Concentrating on his work, sophomore Steven Duncan finishes an assignment before the bell rings. This allowed him more time to complete his responsibilities at home.

During the frequent computer malfunctions, secretaries must type in attendance manually. Main office secretary Ms. Jura entered attendance into her computer.

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

Best All Around	Andrew Hedlund	Loren Black
Best Hair	Kennedy Moore	Whitney Shaw
Best Personality	Andrew Hedlund	Casey McGowan
Best Friends	Marty Little and Josh Daly	Precious Elliott and Kim Wells
Best Physique	Chris Albin	Cara Riley
Best Smile	Justin Scott	Kim Wells
Most Likely to be President	Steven Perkins	Melissa Sabin
Most Likely to be a Superhero	Tim Berry	Courtney Cox
Most Likely to be a Rock Star	Steve Cox	Casey McGowan
Most Likely to be a Pro Athlete	Justin Scott	Ashley Stock
Strongest	Chris Ellis	Rosetta Okohson
Best Dancer	Nick Vitale	Janelle Barnum
Best Dressed	Aaron Chrisman	Christina Turner
Most Hair Styles	Patrick Wilson	Ali Bobo
Most Dramatic	Justin Davis	Rachel McNamee
Most School Spirited	Steven Perkins	Ali Greco
Worst Driver	Joey Kathcart	Sara Lewis
Shortest	Wayne Haggard	Erica Karpinski
Tallest	David Hermann	Dreshawna Hearod
Best Laugh	Jake Clover	Caitlin Healy
Most Loyal	Matt Bartlett	Erica Beger
Most Talented	Marty Little	Michelle Aubuchon
Most Artistic	Nick Luft	Jenni Lambert
Most Outgoing	Karl Kulaitis	Precious Elliott
Most Musical	Josh Daly	Michelle Aubuchon
Class Clown	Delon Hill	Whitnee' Watson
Most Outrageous	Josh Daly	Courtney Cox
Most Forgetful	Armand Berry	Karly Gadomski
Most Gullible	Justin Pillarick	Caitlin Healy
Best Car	Kevin Anderson	Linda Rojas
Best Driver	Justin Davis	Toni Webb
Most Determined	Ba Huynh	Sara Lewis
Most Creative	Nick Luft	Kristy Johnson
Most Talkitive	Delon Hill	Erica Karpinski
Fastest Talker	Brett Fallon	Precious Elliott
Most Changed Since Ninth Grade	Aaron Rosengren	Jessica Gischer
Least Changed Since Ninth Grade	Jeremy King	Loren Black
Biggest Mooch	Ryan Heflin	Katie Brown
Most Sophisticated	Jason Moeller	Nicole Walker
Cutest Couple	Josh Donnelly	Cara Riley
Most Likely to Succeed	Ba Huynh	Molly Jennings
Most Unique	Tom Hill	Jamie Shepherd
Most Likely to be a Billionaire	Jason Moeller	Victoria Schwartz
Best Writer	David Underhill	Bethany Panian
Most Likely to be Late to Graduation	Ryan Walters	Kim Schmidt
Friendliest	Marqus Johnson	Serafina Adams
Prettiest Eyes	Karl Kulaitis	Brittany Garner
Most Optimistic	Justin Carter	Lindsey Blankenhorn
Most Opinonated	Cody Hawthorne	Danielle Howerton
Sweetest	Brian Hagler	Amanda Taylor
Most Serious Student	Ba Huynh	Molly Jennings
Smoothest Talker	Ronnie Gunter	Whitnee' Watson
Loudest	Ryan Walters	Nikki Chamberlain
Most Clueless	Justin Pillarick	Karly Gadomski
Most Involved	Chris Albin	Nicole Walker
Quietest	Kyle Smith	Isaura Da Rosa
Shyest	Kyle Smith	Jennifer Abrams
Most Organized	Matt Record	Amanda Reppy
Biggest Perfectionist	Matt Record	Amanda Reppy
Biggest Teachers' Pet	Tim Berry	Ali Greco
Best Excuses	Jeff Nagle	Casey Gammon
Most Innocent	Baron Rimpson	Meghann Thoma
Most Generous	Scott Frick	Lindsey Blankenhorn
Funniest Last Name	Craig Wingbermuehle	Rosetta Okohson
Most Spoiled	Scott Frick	Serafina Adams
Most Likely to go to Disney Land After Graduation	Mr. Ferguson	Kristy Johnson
Most Likely to have their own TV Show	Tim Davis	Ce'rise Miller
Most Boyfriends		Karly Gadomski
Most Girlfriends	Steve Pugh	
Most Sarcastic	Justin Davis	Monica Buckowitz
Biggest Appetite	Wayne Haggard	Becky Coleman
Most Likely to Sleep Through Graduation	Steve Pugh	Krystal Potts
Biggest Computer Geek	Ian Parmley	Victoria Schwartz

Great Expectations

Officers tackle challenges on road to graduation

by Sara Lewis

Long nights working on the Homecoming float to make sure that it was perfect. Staring at computers for hours with burning eyes looking up T-shirt designs for the Senior Class. Doing all this work may not sound like a lot of fun, but to Senior Class officers Ashley Crook, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Molly Jennings and Steven Perkins, that was exactly what it was.

The class selection process took place in May and was a bit unorthodox. While Ashley and Steven were voted into their positions as President and Vice-President, Rosetta and Molly had the luxury of running unopposed. "It was great because there was no stress of having to run against somebody," commented Molly, who added, "but I knew the year ahead of me would make up for it!"

The officers claimed that many rewards came with serving the Class of 2005. "It's fun to think ahead and plan my classmates' senior year," said Rosetta. Other rewards included "choosing the senior announcements," added Steven.

These rewards were not so easily achieved, however. Challenges came with being a class officer as well. "Putting into consideration what everyone in our class would like was a huge responsibility!" exclaimed Steven. "Getting people involved is an enormous challenge. We were working on the Homecoming float until three a.m., but it was worth it because we won first place," declared Rosetta.

Despite all the hard work and long nights, the 2005 class officers said they enjoyed their experience. "This great responsibility has come with the great reward of working with the class of 2005," concluded Ashley.

Serafina Adams
Christopher Albin
Chantal Ambrose
Kevin Anderson
Kristin Anthony

Ketra Arnell
Brittany Aubertin
Michelle Aubuchon
Janelle Barnum
Matthew Bartlett

Nichole Basemore
Chardais Bastien
Erica Beger
Melissa Berns
Timothy Berry

Spilling their guts

Seniors share what makes their skin crawl

by Tonia O'Neal

"I am most afraid of growing old and being alone. Even though there is no story behind it, I still worry about it."
-David Underhill

"Oompa Lumpas (*Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*) and the munchkins on Wizard of Oz, because they are grown up but little. Creepy!"
-Melissa Berns

"I'd have to say sharks because they can eat you in one bite if they wanted to!"
-Kit Keegan

"I am most afraid of spiders becuse they can be poisonous."
- Joe Viner

"Porcelain dolls. It looks like their eyes are following you around; it's creepy."
-Courtney Cox

What will you tell your children about Ritenour and your high school experience?

"I'd tell them that Ritenour is diverse and always changing. And that I loved my experience at Ritenour."-Alex Klenke

"That being in as many sports as you can be in makes the time go by fast and the experience fun."-Dominic Richardson

"You do a lot of growing up during high school."-Miesha Ross

Seniors

Michael Bialik
Krystal Binford
Chesha Bizan
Loren Black
Argilicia Bobo
Jennifer Bollmann

Amy Bostick
Amanda Brinker
David Brown
Kathleen Brown
Jeremy Buck
Jerry Buckner

Monica Buckowitz
Lindsey Buxman
Ashley Callahan
Lindsey Cantu
Justin Carter
Nikki Chamberlain

Aaron Chrisman
David Claffy
Dia Clayborn
Jacob Clover
Ashley Coleman
Rebecca Coleman

Brian Colman
Courtney Cox
Steven Cox
Ashley Crook
Sheila Curran
James Czerniewski

Seniors

Steven Ward

Mike Kentch

Shannon Keithly

Joshua Daly
Debra Dancy
Justin Davis
Timothy Davis
Christopher Dickerson
Jessica Diggins

Jamie Dilorenzo
Zachary Dingman
Cortney Dollens
Joshua Donnelly
Christy Dulle
Kelly Durnin

Aimee Dyer
Precious Elliott
Christopher Ellis
Sabrina Ellis
Brett Fallon
Elizabeth Fitzgerald

Thomas Frazee
Scott Frick
Karly Gadomski
Casey Gammon
Brittany Garner
Joni Geil

Jessica Gischer
William Glover
Chad Gornicz
Charnez Graham
Alison Greco
Shawn Groene

Johnathan Burris

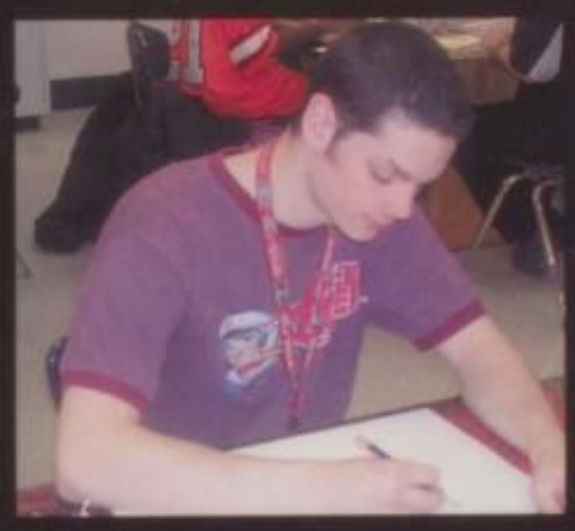
Making it Easy

The real way to prioritize in high school

by Nicole Walker

Before entering high school, eighth grade middle school teachers can be hard on their students. This caused the false belief that high school had to be hard. After a few years of panicking and working hard, students realized how to make high school a little easier on themselves.

"I say hi to all of my teachers in a happy, upbeat voice when I see them in the hallway. After I get on their good sides, if I forget my homework I am like 'Oh, no! I forgot to do my homework! Can I please turn it in next class?' And they are like, 'That is fine, Justin.'"
-Justin Pillarick



"I think you have come to the right person for this question. First thing is to learn how the system and teacher work so you can know what you can get away with. Then test the waters. It may hurt, but it is a risk you have to take. And, finally, just cruise. If you don't pass, go down to the Caribbean."
-Matt Bartlett

"You have to learn to identify with yourself. Don't try to find a common ground between you and the people you hang out with. You have to just be yourself and know what you can do instead of being so preoccupied with trying to be cool and fit in. As long as you do what you want to do and you know what is right, you will be fine."
-Jerry Buckner

High School Highlights

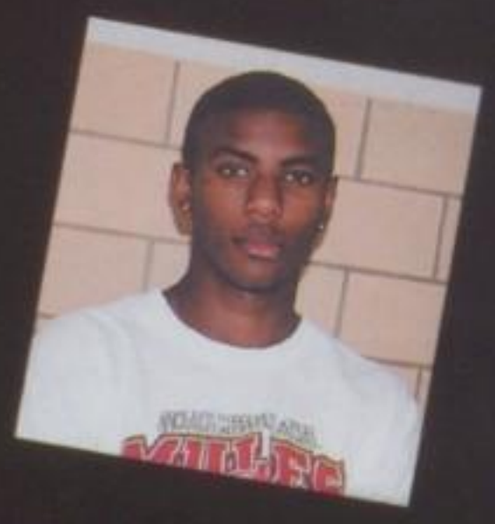
The real reasons we come to school

by Nicole Walker

"Winning the powderpuff game junior and senior year. The look on our opponents' faces was awesome. They talked so much trash it was ridiculous. They deserved it."
-Rosetta Okohson-Reb

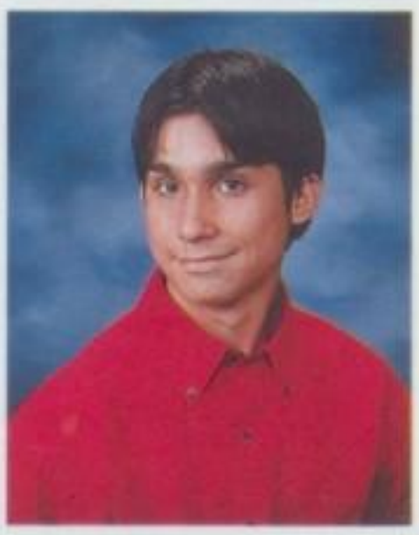
"One time in Mr. Peterson's class, Sam Winter was leaning back in his chair and fell over. Later that class, he did it again."
-Kate Bolderson

"I got my first American Legion home run sophomore year."
-Brandon Ortiz



"Beating Pattonville in football junior year."
-Justin Scott

"I was in a one act play called *Drugs Are Bad* junior year. There were only three of us in the class, and we took all of the awards for our play. Best actress, actor, supporting actor, best play, and best director. It was great."
-Brian Williams



Seniors

You know you're a senior when...

"You find yourself saying, 'Ugh, freshmen,' like five times a day." -Jenni Lambert

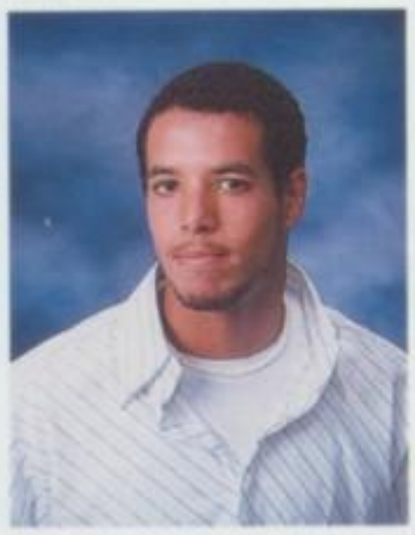
"You feel like doing absolutely nothing." -Kyle Pritchett

"You have those long, boring, senior assemblies." -Mike Weatherford

"YOU FEEL LIKE A GIANT WALKING THROUGH THE FRESHMAN HALLWAY." -JAMES WILKINS

Linda Gunter
Ronnie Gunter
Harsh Gupta
Brian Hagler
Brandon Hamilton
Christopher Hatcher

Robert Hawthorne
Caitlin Healy
DreShawna Hearod
Andrew Hedlund
Ryan Heflin
Jamie Henning



David Hermann
Delon Hill
Ronisha Hill
Thomas Hill
Tabitha Himmeger
Edward Hodapp

Michael Hohman
Anthony Holland
Daniel Hollis
Danielle Howerton
Sandra Hunter
Ba Huynh

Randi Iliff
Michelle Jacobs
Molly Jennings
Jeffrey Johnson
Kenneth Johnson
Kristy Johnson

Seniors

Daniel Kassing

Kamerial Love

Erin Lampe

Marqus Johnson
Matthew Kamp
Erica Karpinski
Joseph Kathcart
Kit Keegan
Kimberly Kellum

Brittany Key
Asia King
Jeremy King
Alex Klenke
Eve Komkam
Karl Kulaitis

Amanda Laird
Tiana Lambus
Sara Lewis
Brandon Lindsey
Marty Little
Kenneth Littrell

Loequishia Lomax
Jeffery Long
Ashley Love
Nicholas Luft
Lauren Maddock
Jennifer Malawey

Crystal McCandless
Casey McGowan
Joshua McGrotty
Rachel McNamee
Kyle Merisotes
Shawn Messerly

Mario Larkin

Civil War

Ritenour Students Face Off

by Sara Lewis

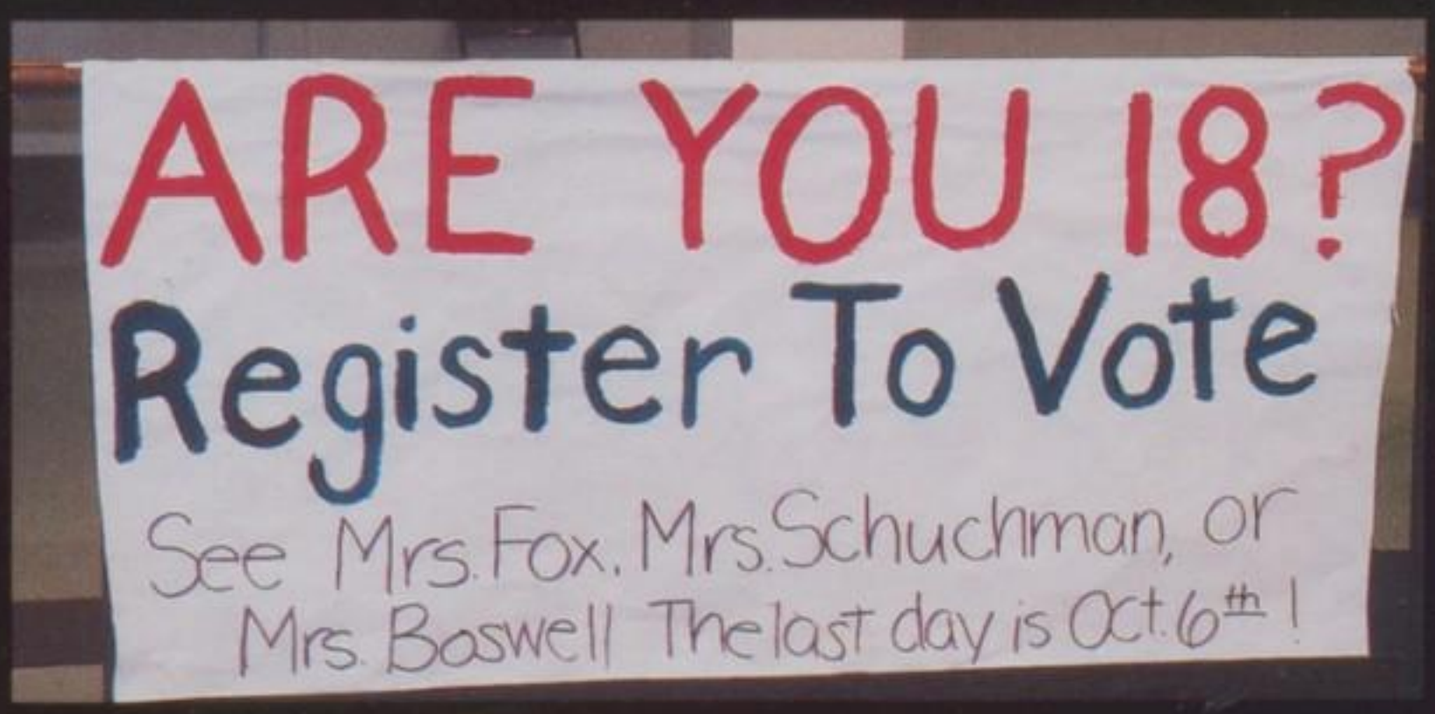
Senior year, many reached that crucial stage when they could finally have a say in their own destinies, by reaching the official voting age. With this privilege of voting also came the responsibility of knowing where they stood on issues important to the election. While a war on terror swirled in the Middle East, our generation was on the brink of some of the most influential times that America had ever seen. With rumors of the draft being reinstated, students were on edge about their fates in the months following graduation. Students voiced off on both sides of the issue.

"There are people who need our help," reasoned Amanda Schneider, defending her decision to enlist in the Army. This summer Amanda attended Boot Camp with other 17 year olds to prepare her for the rigors of combat. Amanda described boot camp as, "hard but fun…we shot weapons and grenades and did road marches carrying 50 pounds on our backs." Defying friends' and family's apprehensions that she might get hurt, as well as their political objections to the conflict, Amanda enlisted to serve her nation. Despite her agreement with the positive aspect of the war, Amanda disagreed with President Bush's policy on the war. Ultimately, lending a helping hand to those in need was her driving motivation. "There are more reasons to fight than to go out and get the bad guys. I want to help other people."

"I won't fight. I'll move to Canada." Matt Kamp, a strong opponent to the war in Iraq, found it hard to agree with a policy that he felt was untruthful. "People go to war for reasons that they are not aware of...we were supposed to find weapons of mass destruction, but where are they?" Like many of his friends that also oppose the reinstatement of the draft, Matt felt that enlistment should be strictly voluntary. "You should not *have* to serve…war should not be inflicted on people." Despite his love for his country, Matt could not bring himself to enter a war that he found pointless and that was directed by a man whose ideas were not on the same wavelength as his own. "All we're doing is killing people," he countered, adding, "We just take over like a dictator."

Wanting to lend a helping hand to those in need, Amanda Schneider enlisted in the army. After attending boot camp this summer she was enthused and ready for service.

Matt Kamp is an opponent to the war in the Middle East. He disagreed with the policies that had been adopted regarding the conflict.



Making Post-Grad Plans

Seniors stay ahead of the game

by Tonia O'Neal

"I'd like to be a pediatric nurse because I like to help people when they are hurt, and I like kids." -Jymeela Barnard

"Broadcasting radio, because it is simply fun being able to get my word out to people."
-Justin Carter

"I would like to work for the ASPCA, because I care very strongly about animals."
-Brittany Aubertin

"My plans are to attend college and study cosmotology."
-Casey Gammon

"My goal is to eventually get an administrative position in an international company. I want to work some place that will let me travel to or live in Japan, but I know that it won't happen anytime soon. I'll have to work my way up."
-Jamie Shepherd

Seniors

What will you miss the most about Ritenour?

"The free food in the mornings, friends, and my art classes." -Krystal Binford

"The people in general. It is nice to be around variety." -Jessica Diggins

"I WILL MISS MY FRIENDS." -KEISHA WHITE

"Being a part of the Ritenour community." -Rattapon Ponchan

Amanda Miller

Ce'Rise Miller

Jason Moeller

Eva Moody

Kanishia Moody

Kennedy Moore

Shauna Moore

Ashley Morris

Ryan Mudd

Diana Murillo

Jeffrey Nagle

Amanda Necker

Steven Nelson

Cody Niedringhaus

Rosetta Okohson-Reb

Tonia O'Neal

Brandon Ortiz

Bethany Panian

Holly Parker

Devon Parks

Amanda Parkus

Himanshu Patel

Steven Perkins

Justin Pillarick

Krystal Potts

Kyle Pritchett

Willie Pruitt

Steven Pugh

Theresa Randolph

Matthew Record

Seniors

Crystal Adams

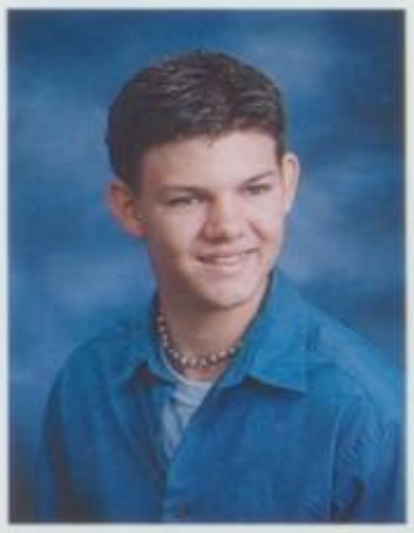
Chauncei Andrews

Jennifer Abrams

Amanda Reppy
Amanda Richards
Nicholas Richardson
Cara Riley
Linda Rojas
Aaron Rosengren

Heather Roush
Melissa Sabin
Anthony Schaal
Matthew Schepers
Kimberly Schmidt
Amanda Schneider

Thomas Schultz
Victoria Schwartz
Whitney Shaw
Jamie Shepherd
Kevin Shields
David Shoults



Carmelita Sims
Kristen Smith
Kyle Smith
Randy Smith
Stephanie Soderblom
Brittany Spann

Tammisha Spratt
Ashley Stock
Christopher Stock
Rory Surtin Jr.
Ryan Sweeney
Noraiza Talbin

Chad Alberty

Senioritis vs. Academic Overload

Skimming through last year or cramming in?

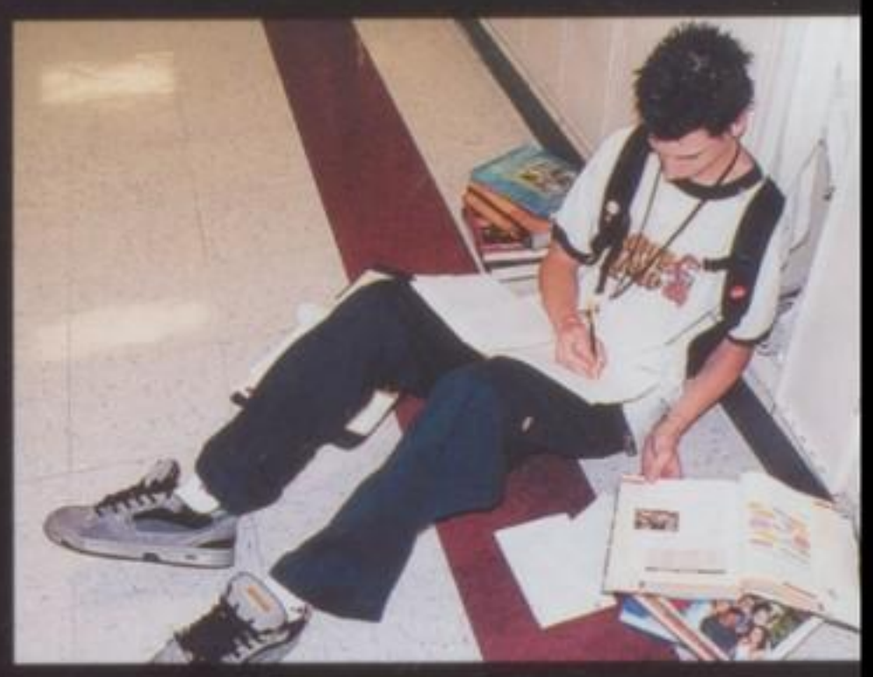
by Molly Jennings and Bethany Panian

Counting down…Homework…Parties…friends and applications for college? Being a senior pulled students in two very different directions. Many entered their senior year with the common misconception that senior year would be the easiest, most fun year of all. But face it… college, the army, and/or the real world were just around the corner. Whether students improved their grade point average through "easy" classes, or they took more difficult classes to impress prospective colleges, seniors contracted one of two common senior problems: senioritis or academic overload. According to victim Ian Parmley, his senioritis symptoms included "increased sleep and a lack of will to do homework." Jamie DiLorenzo's symptoms of academic overload included "skipping lunch to work on papers, turning down plans, and lack of sleep. I've heard of some people losing hair and breaking out in hives." Each had unique sets of side effects.

Many took a laid back approach to their senior year. Marqus Johnson experienced this first hand. "I got senioritis in the first week of school. I took all practical art classes and weight training." Despite the minor drawbacks of college aspirations, Marqus focused on the positive: "My GPA went up a lot because it's not hard to do the homework in the classes they don't assign it." Another senior, Kennedy Moore, agreed with Marqus, and saw his no work attitude pay off with drawbacks: "I'm getting better grades, but I'm going to be very unprepared for college."

With honors, AP, and college credit many were at the opposite end of the spectrum. Meghann Thoma realized she would not get the ever-desired easy senior year when difficult classes took up her social time: "I don't have a lot of time to spend with my friends anymore." Although the classes were consuming, Meghann took them "to have more experience with college; to have a heads up." Keisha White also had senior year blues with long nights with no parties. She said, "I don't have time to do anything anymore." With multiple honors and 1818 classes, Keisha advised others to organize their time and keep a day planner. With the help of her day planner, she left laziness behind and went hard core: "I didn't want to be lazy my senior year, and I wanted to be prepared because I am going to have to do this next year." With these tips and stresses, students faced the reality that their future was waiting, and they wanted to be well prepared.

The pressures of senior year, or the lack thereof affected students in a variety of ways. Some preferred taking the Easy Street and improving their GPA's while others went all out to prepare them for the Black Lagoon around the corner. Whether someone was sleeping in class or losing hair, senior year was a big deal, and students tried to make the most of their final days.



Sitting in the hallway, senior Larry Irby works on an arra homework before class. "I feel it's important to work all the up to the end, even though it's my senior year," Larry sai

Relaxing, Kennedy Moore, a senior, takes a nap in math. He o to take less stressful classes his senior year to raise his G

Good Times

Seniors paid their dues. . .now they have the good life

by Casey McGowan

"Since it is our senior year, our class has come together. Also, teachers actually treat us like adults."
-Jamie DiLorenzo

"Knowing I'm getting out of here soon is what is getting me through my senior year."
-Sam Winter

"I am using senior year to get ready for freedom and responsibility."

- Sean Panilawon

"There are a lot more activities for seniors to participate in, and it makes the year go faster."
- Sydney Taylor

"Knowing you're about to be in the real world, on your own in a few months."
-Turquoise Mabon

'05 Shout Outs

"Stay cool, class of 05!" -Brittany Spann

"It's been fun!" -Shawn Groene

"I'll miss you guys!!!!!!" -Kyle Merisotes

Seniors

"IT'S BEEN A GOOD YEAR, AND I'M REALLY GOING TO MISS EVERYBODY." -DEBRA DANCY

Amanda Taylor
Misty Temares
Laquita Tenner
Meghann Thoma
Ajah Thomas
Ashley Thompson

Jennifer Thurman
Christina Turner
Adam Ullrich
David Underhill
Crystal Vogelsang
Huong Vu

Nicole Walker
Ryan Walters
Whitnee Watson
Toni Webb
Brian Weiterman
Kimberly Wells

Keisha White
Sharonda White
James Wilkins
Amber Williams
Brian Williams
Jenna Wilson

Patrick Wilson
Tiffany Wittig
Jeremiah Wright
Joshuaa Wuest
Whitney Young
Rattapon Ponchan

Story
Suitable for Young Audiences

by Casey McGowan and Molly Jennings

The year was 1992…school actually started after Labor Day…we looked forward to slinging on our Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or Barbie backpacks and heading off to the coveted half-day of school. The classrooms had their own bathrooms, we had centers, and "laid back" was the name of the game. The thirteen years between kindergarten and senior year have brought about many changes. Fashions came and went, music played and faded, and the current seniors have grown and matured.

Precious Elliot

Favorite Toy
Then: Tweety Bird — Now: Tweety Bird
Favorite Thing To Do
Then: Run track — Now: Run track
Favorite Food
Then: Pizza — Now: Pizza
Favorite Thing About School
Then: Math — Now: Playing around

Kenneth Littrell

Favorite TV Show
Then: Carebears — Now: King of Queens
Favorite Toy
Then: Bike — Now: Remote controlled laminator
Favorite Food
Then: Everything — Now: Roast beef
Favorite Thing About School
Then: Paint — Now: Math

Zachery Dingman

Favorite TV Show
Then: Barney — Now: Aquateen Hunger Force
Favorite Thing To Do
Then: Read — Now: Play music
Favorite Food
Then: Pizza — Now: Tiramisu
Favorite Thing About School
Then: Math — Now: Math

Jennifer Abrams

Favorite Movie
Then: Aladdin — Now: Masterminds
Favorite Toy
Then: Barbies — Now: Computer
Favorite Thing To Do
Then: Color — Now: Listen to music
Favorite Food
Then: Pancakes — Now: MY pancakes

Rachel McNamee

Favorite TV Show
Then: Barney — Now: The O.C.
Favorite Movie
Then: Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen — Now: Mean Girls
Favorite Toy
Then: Barbie — Now: Barbie
Favorite Music
Then: New Kids on the Block — Now: Anything

Serafina Adams

Favorite TV Show
Then: Care Bears — Now: That 70's Show
Favorite Movie
Then: Strawberry Shortcake — Now: The Notebook
Favorite Toy
Then: Barbie and Water Baby — Now: Barbie
Favorite Music
Then: New Kids on the Block — Now: Anything

Isaura Da Rosa

Favorite Thing To Do
Then: Play — Now: Sports and music
Favorite Food
Then: Candy — Now: Candy
Favorite Thing About School
Then: Recess — Now: Extra-curricular activities

Monica Buckowitz

Favorite TV Show
Then: Ninja Turtles — Now: That 70's Show
Favorite Movie
Then: Homeward Bound — Now: The Exorcist
Favorite Toy
Then: Pound Puppies — Now: Barbie
Favorite Music
Then: Country — Now: Rap

Come Together: Junior Class Commits

by Molly Jennings

Every Thursday, dedicated students woke up early, groggy, and tired. They made their way to school long before the day began. Once inside the building, they made their way to room 249. In that room students decided what to make of their junior year and hoped to make it successful.

The junior class officers were president Nicole Verble, vice-president Jessica Franklin, secretary Leah Kern, and treasurer Tessa Wilson. They were led by sponsor Mr. Peterson, who also taught English. The class came together to form committees made of peers. The class of 2006 used a committee approach starting with their freshman year. Vice-president and former committee member Jessica Franklin said, "We want to increase involvement amongst our peers and keep them from quitting."

Their goals included getting class shirts, winning the spirit stick, and helping their peers become more involved. They especially wanted to raise enough money to have a good prom. Working the candy store and talking to their peers were beneficial to their cause.

Setting up the committees not only increased involvement in the junior class but it also allowed officers to get a better idea of what their class wanted. Furthermore, the committees helped to decrease the amount of stress on the officers. The class officers had a committee for prom, one for homecoming, one for assemblies, and one to increasing involvement. Secretary Leah Kern said, "We need everyone to work together, or the class won't be successful." With heightened hopes an officer headed each committee. Mr. Peterson helped the four officers and all those who participated to stay on track while he guided them towards success. He said, "Success only comes through hard work."

JUNIOR CLASS OFFICERS: Secretary Leah Kern, Treasurer Tessa Wilson, Vice-President Jessica Franklin, and President Nicole Verble.

Briana Abernathy
Jeffrey Aitken
Dequinda Allen
Donnell Allen
Larenzo Allen
Christina Andrade
Kathrine Ayres

Shawn Badgett
Emily Baker
Arica Barnes
Jamal Bass
Joseph Bedwell
Dawit Bekuretsion
Erich Bendickson

Amy Berry
Rayneshia Betts
Jada Billups
Joseph Binkley
Nickole Black
Lashaunda Blake
Steven Bolton

Rosemary Bond
Billy Boner
Glennon Boswell
Sara Bouska
Anthony Boyd
Arnold Bratton
Carie Breen

At B-day lunch, Cameron Howard and Ravione Scott discuss plans to go to the movies on the weekend. Lunch offered a more relaxed atmosphere for students to make plans.

In sculpture class, Ashley Peter uses her creativity to create a masterpiece. Students worked with a clay media to produce their projects.

When work is all done in Mr. Barcal's Algebra 2 class, it is time for play. Justin Wheeler played cards after he completed Mr. Barcal's assignment for the day.

Class of 2006

Jordan Brennan

Lamar Brooks

Angela Brown

Travis Burks

Sierra Burrow

Jeffrey Butera

Zachary Buxman

Dana Cafer

Erin Cardwell

Adam Carlton

Purita Carrillo

Onyee' Carter

Michael Cash

Kayla Cattage

Somsong Chiangrum

Sean Childs

Arvon Clemons

Demetria Coats

Kelly Conrey

Marianne Conroy

Sarah Cooley

Ciara Cooper

Jacob Cordia

Danielle Criswell

Patricia Cross

Alberto Cueto

Antwan Cunningham

David Curry

Elisa Cusick

Gina Daily

Christopher Davies

Ashley Davis

Madelyn Demas

Sarah Dettmer

Alfredo Dominguez

Ashley Dorton

Joseph Downing

Elizabeth Duffin

Bridget Duke

Julian Duncan

Juniors

David Eggleston
Willie Elbert
Tynisha Elem
Alec Ellebracht
Latanya Elliott
Latoya Elliott
Julia Enloe

Travis Enlow
Gabriel Escobedo
William Exum
Keiasha Ferguson
Rachael Fetch
William Flannery
Zachary Flaxbeard

Maria Flores
Drew Ford
Jacob Franklin
Jessica Franklin
Brian Frazier
Donald Freeman
Stephen Freund

Nelly Jarumny Garcia
Joshua Gibson
Anabel Gonzalez
Shanicia Goston
Owen Gray
Rachel Gray
Jacqueline Greco

How do you define Junior?

by Ashley Scott

"Someone who sets examples for underclassmen."
—Michael McDuffie

"Being members of '06 we have such a variety of students, and we have such an umpf and will to learn."
-Anna Troupe

"The best class."
—Beth Ritz

"An upperclassman."
—Bridget Ivy

"Not yet a senior."
—Amanda Uelk

Rubber Ducky, You're The One

by Molly Jennings

"Splish, Splash, I was taking a bath!" Nope, not Bobby Darin, but rather the junior class sang in the shower. Singing was a popular activity for juniors while they were bored in the shower. Singing loud and clear, many made their voices heard throughout their homes and neighborhoods. From nursery rhymes to R & B, students sang their all-time favorites while soaping up.

Singing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" was Cornell Williams' favorite. He sang the song because it had special meaning to him. Cornell explained, "My mom used to sing it to me when she gave me baths as a young child. It's just stuck with me over the years.

Although reluctant to admit to her shower singing talents, Tiffany Marsh took pleasure in singing worship songs to her cat out of boredom. Furthermore, she said, "I can wail and no one will hear me; I don't have to worry about dogs howling."

Amongst Derrick Howard's favorite artists to emulate were Lil' Wayne and The Young Bloodz. Both have fast songs Derrick especially enjoyed: "I like fast beats because it allows me to take a quick shower."

Andrew Moore was yet another student who took pleasure in shower singing. His favorite melodies included Mario and "You Can Make Me Love You." Andrew's number one reason for singing in the shower was attributed to weariness: "I sing them because I'm bored."

Singing in the shower helps Tiffany Marsh clear her mind and body. Juniors had stressful schedules, and they did what they had to do to survive.

Like her fellow classmates Anh Nguyen also enjoyed practicing her vocal talents while cleansing herself. Anh's shower specialties included a variety of genres such as, "nursery rhymes, Asian songs, and songs I make up!" Anh was petrified of singing in front of crowds and felt that she sounded better to herself. Anh's reasons for singing in the shower were, "It's fun, especially when I'm bored, and it reduces my stress; I can annoy my brother!"

Although one's shower singing capabilities may annoy others, like Bert, when Ernie sang "Rubber Ducky," juniors ignored what others thought and let out a little steam to combat boredom.

Amber Green
Ganay Green
Ryan Grier
Lindsey Griffith
Jerome Hall
William Hanson
Christopher Hassel

Gregory Helton
Jerome Henderson
Thomas Heun
Derrick Hicks
Katherine Higgins
Krista Hildebrand
John Hodges

Courtney Hodgkins
Ashley Hopfer
Brittany Hopkin
Austin Horton
Cameron Howard
Derrick Howard
Keesha Hudson

John Huff
Andrew Hughes
Tiara Huntington
Ashley Hurley
John Hynes
Candance Irving
Bridget Ivy

Class of 2006

Aa'Shia Jackson
Marcus Jackson
James Jacobs
Katherine Jacobsmeyer
Bernadette James

Marcus James
David Jobe
Jody Johnson
Joshua Johnson
Krystal Johnson

Nathaniel Johnson
Ashley Jones
Kevin Jones
Megan Jones
Eric Kaiser

Nicholas Kaiser
Michael Keeton
Thomas Keeven
Valerie Kelley
Horace Kemp

Michael Kemp
Leah Kern
Brian King
Robert Kroeger
Christopher Kuntzman

Danielle Landreth
Darrion Landrum
Emily Lansche
Dannielle Lee
Catherine Leerdam

Mason Levo
Mandi Little
Micah Little
Zachary Little
Joe Love

Benetta Lovings
Humberto Luis
Gregory Lundry
Shikina Mabry
David Mack

Taking a break from his studies, Chris Sifford takes a nap during class. Having stayed up late the previous night, students like Chris took naps against their teacher's wills.

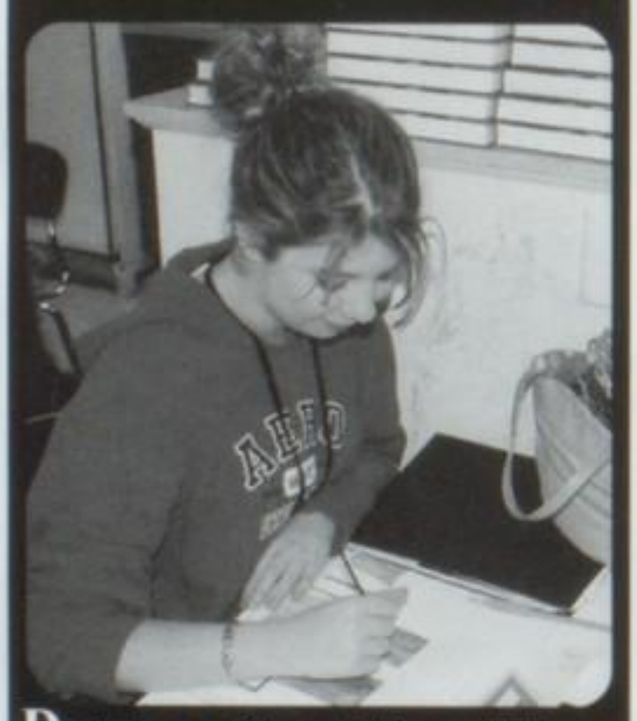
During class, Vilmarie DeSoto checks up on her Troll doll. Vilmarie kept the troll on hand for good luck before tests. Her classmates also had various good luck charms.

Along with doing class work, Starlena Cody writes a note during Mr. Barcal's class. During free time, students caught up with their friends.

Class of 2006

Working on her clay pot in sculpture class, Abby Wildgrube fixes every little detail to her sculpture. Details made the difference between an average and exceptional art project.

While talking to a classmate, Josh Johnson waits for the bell to ring to signal the end of Mr. Barcal's math class. Once students completed their work, they finished other assignments.



Designing a picture, Adrienne Williams uses her paints to complete her assignment in Foundations of Art. Working with paint was a technique art students used to learn more about art.

Eleni Madison
Ryan Mahn
Michael Manzella
Kyle Marrufo
Jacqueline Marsh

Tiffany Marsh
Robert Martin
Jorge Martinez
Anthony Mayer
Amanda McCarter

Scott McClanahan
Shawn McClanahan
Monique McClendon
Caitlin McDaniel
Michael McDuffie

Nicole McEntire
Wesley McFarland
Christopher McGlynn
Kenneth McIntire
Charles McNeil

Patrick McVicker
Michelle Meadows
Justin Melichar
Matthew Miller
Maurice Miller

William Miller
Ashley Mitchell
Edward Mitchell
Kimberly Moeller
Jerami Moody

Aimee Moore
Andrew Moore
Russell Morrissey
Andrew Moss
Mia Moten

Ladasha Moye
Carissa Mudge
David Mulholland
Ross Mulligan
Timothy Musterman

Off The Walls

by Molly Jennings

Rooms: An inter-sanctum. A fort to all students. One's retreat from life—the bedroom. Juniors decked out their citadels to suit their personality and life. Bedrooms were like the sets of movies—each sported unique characteristics to suit the time, theme, and individuals. The bedroom reflected 2006 individuality, personality, and style. From couches to stuffed animals, juniors adorned their bedrooms any way they wished.

Amanda Thomas' room was composed of 3-D puzzles and artwork that dangled from her red walls, and her enormous stuffed panda collection that chilled out in the corner. Amanda took pleasure in going to her room to "sleep, but it is also my fortress of solitude; I can read and make puzzles and escape from people." Amanda was especially keen because she was able to pick the colors and design the room herself.

Antwan Cunningham's room exhibited his favorite posters. Amongst his most adored posters was one of Muhammad Ali. Most importantly, Antwan enjoyed being able to retreat to his room to "listen to music."

Tessa Wilson's cantaloupe and sherbet orange bedroom was admired by many. Her friend, Nicole Verble said, "It's all Tessa; it shows her style." The room exhibited Tessa's many pictures, and hers and other artwork she bought. She especially liked it because, "it's different; I keep it creative."

Justin Tabers recently got his own room. To show his style and creativity, Justin got a leather couch to enhance his personal sanctuary: "I've never had my own room before, and my leather couch expresses my individuality."

Sporting the jungle theme, Latoya and Latonya Elliott's bedroom features animal print fabrics as well as many jungle stuffed animals and pictures.

Sisters Latoya and Latanya Elliott's room displayed a jungle theme that took years to complete. Latanya said, "It took a lot of hard work." The completed room is black and leopard striped and filled with an abundance of stuffed animals. Everywhere one looked, animals could be seen on the ceilings, walls, and floor.

Their inter-sanctums expressed these juniors' true selves while in high school. What did your room say about you?

Jose Negrete
Ferriss Nelson
Casey Newman
Micheal Newson
Anh Nguyen
Lizzette Nieto
Elaine Norris

Dustin Nugent
Justin O'Bryant
Jeffrey Oglesby
Benjamin Osborne
Candice Owens
Michael Parker
Terry Parker

Joseph Parres
Parul Patel
Dominique Peoples
Juan Perales
George Perkins
Danielle Petersen
Jashawna Pettigrew

Alexis Phillips
Julius Phillips
Quinesha Phillips
Anna Phipps
Ashlee Piacentini
Arthur Pleas
William Poelker

Juniors

Cynthia Pollack
Shannon Porter
Terry Raby
Scott Raney
Kayla Recker
Jordan Reifschneider
Megan Reifsteck

Calep Reyes
Abigail Riebeling
Kelly Riley
Elizabeth Ritz
Tramez Roberson
Lee Robertson
Michael Robertson

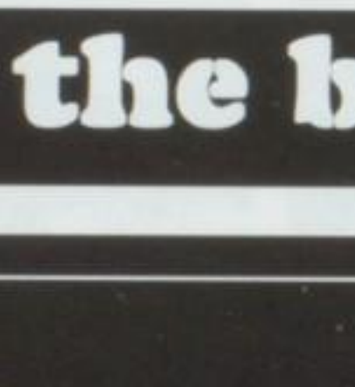
Lydia Rodenberg
De'Angelo Rodgers
Corry Rogers
Kyle Rooney
Chelsey Roskowske
Matthew Ross
Justin Saffold

Henry Sallee
Mark Sater
Brittany Schafer
Corey Schaffer
Jaclyn Schroeder
Barbra Schulz
Nicholas Scotino

What is the best lie you ever told?

by Ashley Scott

"I told this boy that I was a boy when I was really little because he said girls had cooties."
—Parul Patel



"When I got chased by seven hillbillies on dirt bikes."
—Donnell Allen

"When I was fourteen, I went out with a girl who was eighteen, and she thought I was sixteen for like a month and a half until my friends ratted me out."
—Joey Parres

"That I have never told a lie."
—Henry Sallee

"In first grade when I told someone pigs can be blue."
—Michael Parker

Class of 2006

Ashley Scott
Ravione Scott
Kenneth Seiter
Svetlana Serova
Christopher Sifford

Brent Sipriano
Candice Smith
Vilmarie Soto Cortes
Mark Souders
Lauren Stein

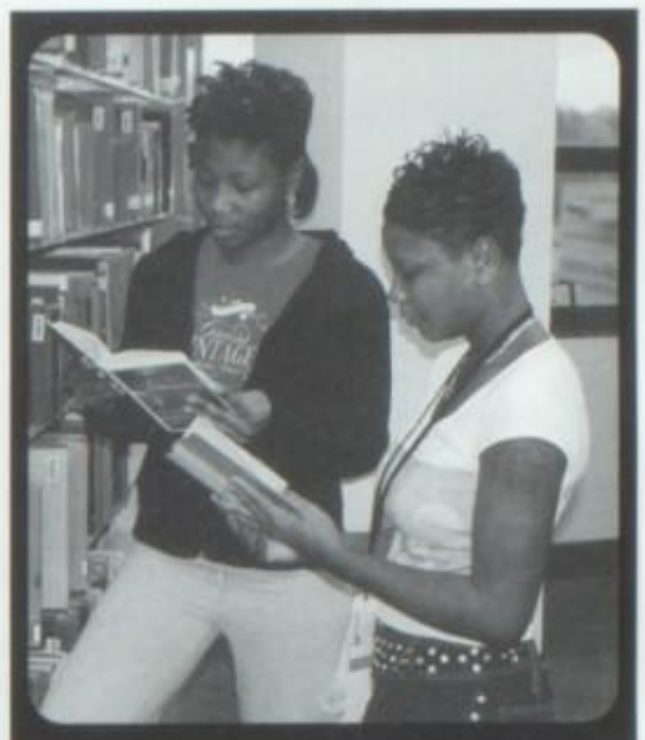
Tiffany Stevens
Donald Steward
Kassie Stillman
Nichole Stockamp
Tiffany Stokes

Jessica Stough
Travis Swearengen
Joseph Swearson
Justin Tabers
Dru Tate

Twylaa Taylor
Amanda Thomas
Jonathan Thompson
Christopher Tillman
Danielle Tillman

Ashley Tinnin
Bernard Toler
Adam Treon
Oanh Trinh
Annastacia Troupe

Thomas Tumbrink
Kristyne Van Dalsem
Nicole Verble
Forente Verrett
Callie Vines



Exploring literature, Onyee' Carter and Shernice Wilkerson peruse the stacks. Filled with thousands of books and scores of computers, the library was a vast source of information.

Web Design Class demands Ryan Mahn's full concentration. He had to complete a web page for the final project in his class.

Keeping an eye out for ball, Rayneshia Betts plays basketball in C-hour. For students who progressed in their classes, C-hour offered a time for leisurely recreation.

Class of 2006

If you were a celebrity, who would you be and why?

by Ashley Scott

"Denzel Washington, because he has money, he is respected, and he is an all around good person."
—Jerami Moody

"Beonycé, because this is her biggest year."
—Mia Moten

"Bam Margera, because he gets paid to beat up his dad, and he skates whenever he wants."
—Jimmie Jacobs

"Chris Tucker, because he is funny."
—Owen Gray

"Cameron Diaz, because I want to be a Charlie's Angel."
—Amy Berry

"Hilary Duff, because she is pretty and a good actress."
—Tiffany Stevens

Jessica Vogelsang
Tham (Amy) Vong
Angela Wamser
Katie Weinhold
Rachel Wester

Ashley Wheeler
Justin Wheeler
Carrie Whitcomb
Brittany White
Irene White

Amber Wildey
Abby Wildgrube
Lauren Wildgrube
Kathryn Wilkes
Adrienne Williams

Amanus Williams
Cornell Williams
Daniel Williams
Nicholas Williams
Shayla Williams

Brandon Willis
Tessa Wilson
Josiah Winter
Nicholas Wolff
Deidre Woodberry

Ashley Woods
Chelsea Wuellner
Alex Young
Brad Young
Heather Young

Nicole Young
Shannon Zykan

Class of 2007 Lends a Hand

by Sara Lewis

Making an executive decision for your entire grade level can be a daunting task, especially when only two officers have been elected-president Meggan Hunnott and vice-president Aimee Miller. Due to the lack of initiative, sophomore class officers rallied and devised an idea about how to help themselves out, and a group of students stepped up and filled in the gap.

That sparked the foundation of the class of 2007's Spirit Club. Spearheaded by Katie Jennings, the class of 2007 Spirit Club consisted of a group of dedicated sophomores who wanted to improve their class and increase involvement.

"Right now we're organizing an assembly for just our class to participate in," commented Katie during the first semester. Meggan thought that the assembly would ease the "lack of class spirit." The class of 2007 Spirit Club helped the officers redefine their class.

"They really help us out," explained Aimee Miller about her partners in service. Though the class was viewed as getting off to a rocky start, sophomore class officers, along with their companions, pointed the class of 2007 in a new direction. "We want to show everyone that we have two years left to make our class great!" concluded Katie.

The Spirit Club, which is made up of students who volunteer their time to plan assemblies for the class of 2007, meets in the mornings before school. The club gathered to discuss ways to improve their class participation and spirit.

Christopher Allen
James Allen
Todd Allen
Brittany Anderson
Kyrsten Anderson
Tiffany Anderson
Roderick Anthony

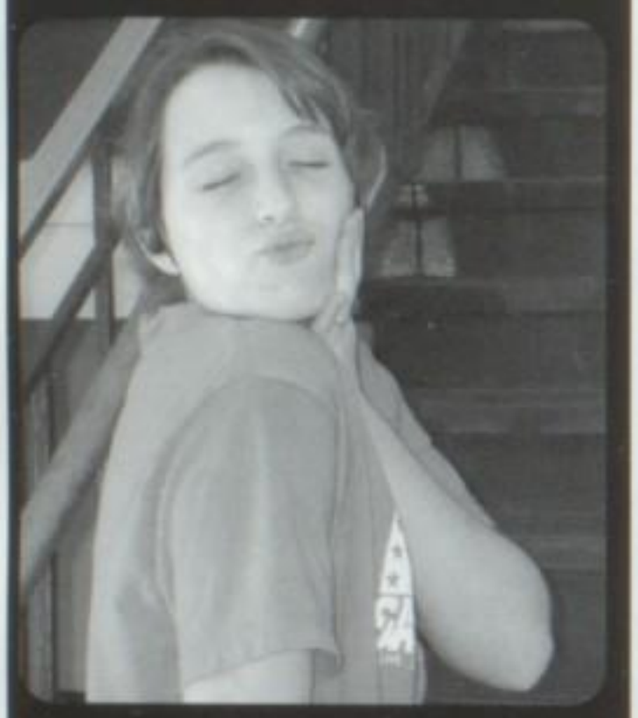
Amanda Asbrock
Aiesha Awad
Cerone Baker
Tabitha Ballard
Ronald Banks
Devin Barber
Brianna Barnett

Joshua Barnhart
Brittany Barth
Brian Basden
Natalie Basemore
Amber Bates
Frisco Baugh
Gillem Beck

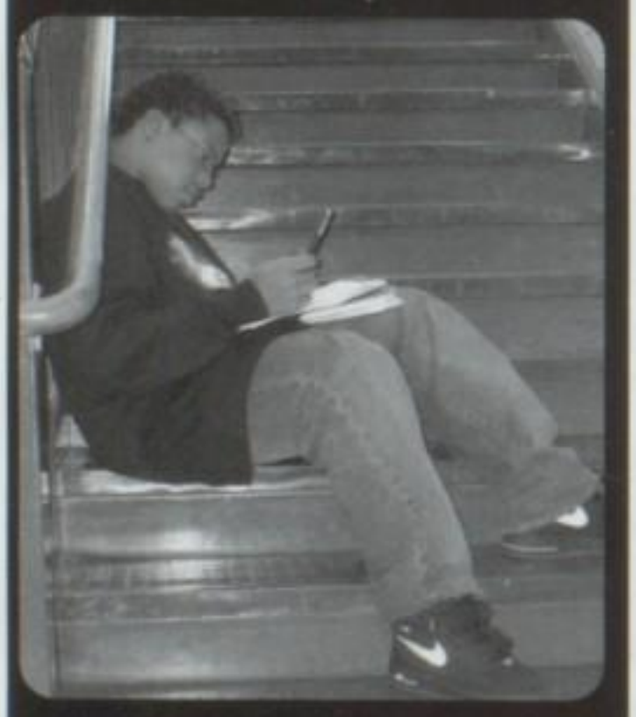
Ethan Bedichek
Patrick Begley
Christopher Berry
Rachel Berry
James Best
Daniel Black
Sean Blackmon

Kyle Blackwell
Darrell Boland
Tyler Bollman
Stacy Bonds
Nicole Boyd
Preston Bradley
Ronna Broeker

The library, with numerous books, computers, and databases, is an aid in research for students. While researching for an English paper, Stefan Combs studied in the library to finish his work.



Spreading a little love, Kylee Raney takes a break form schoolwork to lighten the mood. She was practicing for her future career as an actress.



This once forbidden device is now common in Ritenour hallways. Jonathan McFarland used his cell phone after school to contact his ride home.

Class of 2007

Alexander Bronitsky
Brittany Brown
Jelani Brown
Patrick Brown
Gary Buchanan

Kiarra Burks
Amanda Butler
Kayotta Butler
Timothy Buxman
Elroy (Chip) Buyat

Samuel Buzzetta
James Cafer
Crystal Campbell
Janeen Campbell
Sean Cargal

Erin Carlson
Bryant Carmichael
Brandon Carr
Hanna Carr
Jenny Carrillo

Jerad Carter
Steven Cash
John Castulik
Joshua Chilton
Jesse Christian

Nicole Chunn
Kayleigh Clark
Anthony Clayton
Emily Coffey
Ashleigh Cole

Jessica Coleman
Andrew Collins
April Collins
Cameron Colter
Amanda Colyott

Duane Corrigan
Maurice Couch
Antuan Cowan
Matthew Cowling
Lindsay Cranmer

Samantha Cranmer
Alan Crook
Adam Curran
Brittney Curtis
Jason Dalton
Kenneth Dancy
Jessica Daniel

Damicia Darden
Anthony Davis
Fredia Davis
Peggy Davis
Nicole Dean
Robie Delaney
Teanna Deloch

Abrahim Dhanani
Keisha Dickson
Danielle Dillingham
Chandra Dismute
Nathan Dreier
Jared Dreste
Jacob Duke

Aaron Dulle
Steven Duncan
Todd Dunlap
Charles Dunn
Donald Dyson
Whitney Dyson
Matthew Eaton

Richard Eaton
Tiffany Eaton
Keona Edwards
Kayla Ellege
Michael Ellis
Ahmad Elmashhady
Jonathan Ennis

You have been punked!

by Rachel Valdez

You finally get home from one of the most terrible days of school in your short life. Your boyfriend, or girlfriend, has given you the heave-ho, your grades are plummeting like a skydiver without a parachute, and you are sure that even your pet is against you. Now a common question at this point would be, "Where can I possibly vent all of this anger?" Some, so-called, "experts" said in a diary. But, the times were changing, and that was just so "low tech." Well, *STLpunk.com* helped!

The site was a St. Louis based website where users created their own html pages for the world to see. This site also provided information about bands and shows in the area. As the name suggested, it was a "punk rock" based site, but anyone could have an account, despite musical tastes.

The site detailed concerts and shows, usually of the rock genre, that happened daily. Bands could even create their own pages to help "get their name out there." This publicized the bands immensely; local phenomenon *Story of the Year* even had a page. Users could download songs from the page of their favorite band. When students felt kind of crummy, or were looking for a concert to attend, or just wanted more information about a local band, they looked no further than STLpunk.com.

Using the Internet to communicate with their friends outside of school, sophomores hook up to the World Wide Web. The most talked about website was *STL Punk*, which allowed students to talk to friends and meet other people.

Sophomores

Jameca Evarle
Melanie Fancher
Megan Farr
Seve Faure
Tempestt Felton
Joseph Fincher
Donald Finley

Brittany Fissell
Je'Taun Fitzpatrick
Rebecca Fletcher
Melody Fogel
April Fohey
Christina Fout
Christopher Frambers

Daniel Freeman
Joe Freeman
Neal Fritz
Ja'Cobie Fulton
Curtis Garner
Matthew Garner
Standale Gatlin

Tegan Gatlin
Simon Gebregziabher
Peggy Gillette
Corey Gilliam
Lydia Ginger
Heather Gluecklich
John Goergens

Sergio Gomez
Israel Gonzalez
Lindsey Goodall
John Gray
Steven Gray
Aliyyah Greene
Cassie Greeves

Deepinder Grewal
Maninder Grewal
Heather Guill
Emily Haley
Sionya Haley
Anna Hall
Melissa Harber

Jordan Harbin
Terry Hardieway
Bryanna Harrington
Windall Harris
Julie Hawk
Martez Hawkins
Amanda Heil

Sarah Heineman
Brittany Henley
Marcell Henry
Eric Hensley
Rosa Hernandez
Jori Herndon
Amber Herold

Class of 2007

Michael Hiatt
Stephen Hickman
Bobby Hiltibidal
Brandy Hiltibidal
Angela Hoang

Chelsea Hodapp
Danielle Hodge
John Hodge
Darrian Hodges
Michael Holland

Evan Holloway
Angel Holmes
Zachary Hopfer
Jeffery Houston
Eric Howard

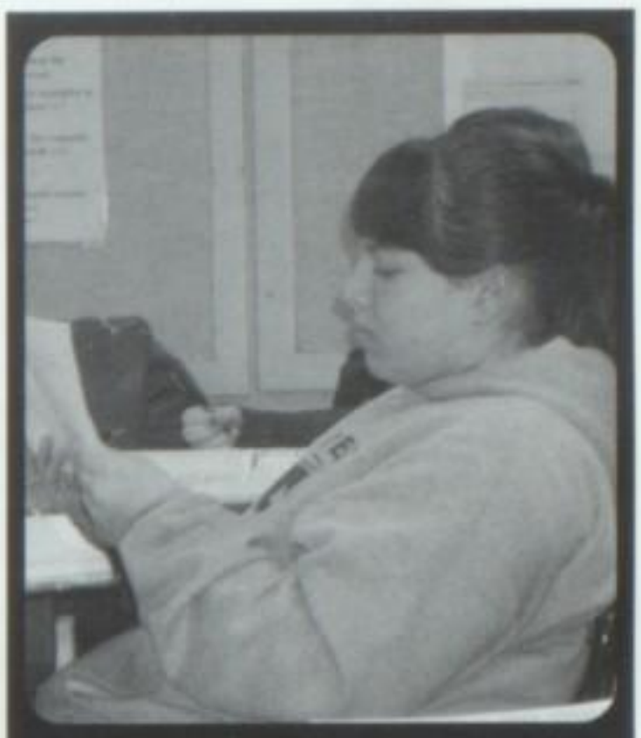
Jaaniece Hudson
Keith Hudson
Joshua Hummel
Meggan Hunott
Michelle Huntebrinker

Stephanie Hussey
Dawn Intagliata
John Intagliata
Angel Jackson
Chae' Jackson

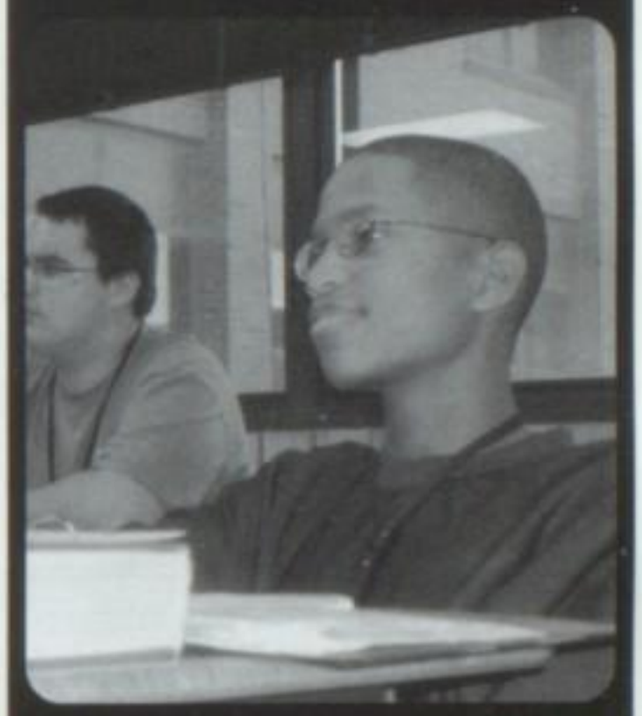
Justin Jackson
Geoffrey Jacobsen
Robert Jenkins
Katherine Jennings
Artilicious Johnson

Courtnee Johnson
Kenessa Johnson
Leisa Johnson
Marilyn Johnson
Tracy Johnson

Ashley Jones
Brandon Jones
Kassondra Jones
Richard Jones
Adam Kaatmann



Note taking is an important part of the learning process. Christina Fout ensured her understanding of the topic at hand by looking over her notes.



Listening to lectures allows students to grasp the subject material. In English class, Garrett Lacy focused on the verbal picture the teacher painted.

Responsiblity is part of the code of ethics. Cassie Greeves demonstrated this component by working steadily on school work.

Class of 2007

Does C-day help you earn better grades and push you to do better?

by Joshuaa Wuest

"I really enjoy the free time I have on C-day. I have C-day in the computer lab where I have time to enjoy playing flash games and working on homework."
-Chris Luft

"C-day motivates me to get better grades. I really enjoy having time to watch movies and hang out with my friends."
-Andrew Milton

"On C-days I go to Mrs. Bowers and receive extra help in my World History class. The help I received brought my grade up and now I'm passing."
-Je'Taun Fitzpatrick

"C-days are a huge help. They give me the motivation to do all my work so I can go hang with my friends instead of doing work."
-Matt Cowling

"Mrs.Ross gave me the help that I needed to raise my grade up two grade levels, which I could not have done without her help."
-Brooke Stone

Kodjo Kavi
Luke Kayser
Katie Keegan
Shannon Keeton
Colleen Kelly

Brandon Kennard
Korina Kessler
Megan Kidwell
Ni-Keith King
Tiffany Klingerman

Taras Kozhemyakin
Jonathan Kramer
Danielle Krshul
Garrett Lacy
Bryan Lally

Christopher Lammert
Daniel Lampley
Markita Larkin
Richard Layman, Jr.
Jeffrey Lemons

Blake Lewis
Candice Lewis
Carolyn Lewis
Yu Lieng
Kenneth Lipsey

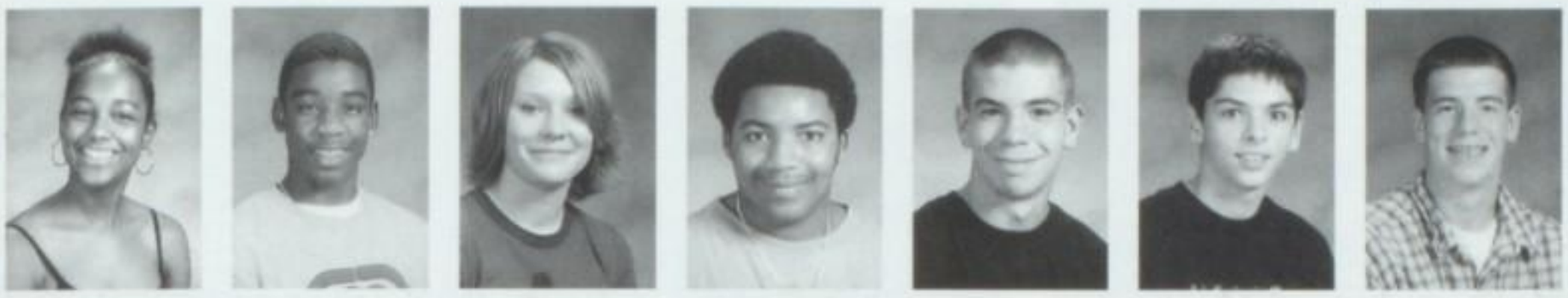
Sabrina Litel
Andrew Lomax
Joseph Lombardo
Melisa Lovewell
Emil Ludewig

Felicia Luensmann
Christopher Luft
James Luu
Kelli Magee
David Malawey

Veronica Maldonado
Daniel Maltman
Anthony Marsala
Amber Martin
Ashley Martin

Sophomores

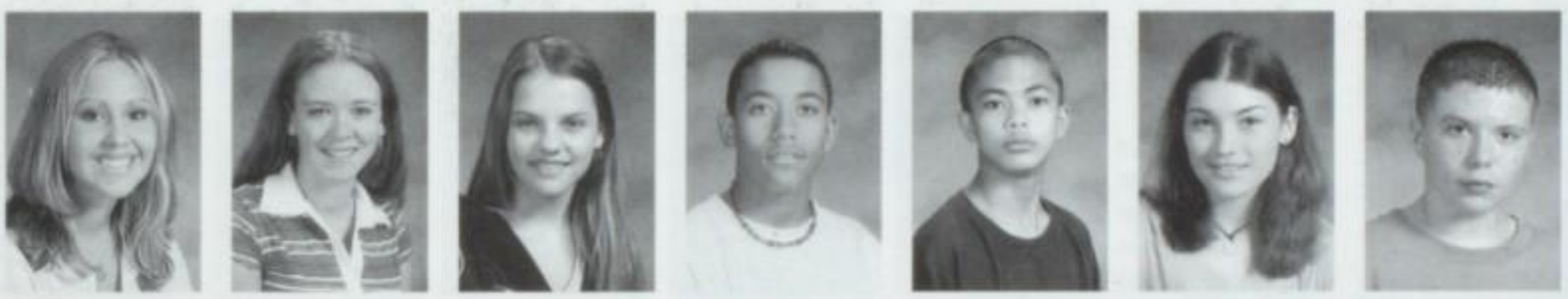
La'Meecha Martin
Taisha Martin
Toby Martin, Jr.
Chucky Mason
Ryan Mattingly
Jade Mayhall
Heather McClain



Ash'Tyn McCollum
Lawrence McCoy
Amber McDaniel
Christopher McDonald
Derek McDonald
Cory McDowell
Timmothy McEntire

Jonathan McFarland
Amanda McGee
Aaron McGowan
Sarah McHenry
Jamie McKinley
Trey McLeod
Neil McNeal

Margaret Meisinger
Casi Menner
Kelley Mercer
Karli Merisotes
Ashley Mesko
Timothy Meyers
Dustin Mikulus



Aimee Miller
Jacquelyne Miller
Jennifer Miller
Andrew Milton
Justin Mondina
Charlotte Montague
Shawn Montgomery

Travis Montgomery
Taneshia Moody
Brittany Moore
Helen Moore
Justin Moore
Brandon Moranville
Tiara Morgan

Jeffrey Morris
Anthony Moss
Ra Tasha Myers
Thien Nguyen
Ashley Nickels
Peter Njau
George Njubi

Heather O'Rourke
Christopher Openlander
Bradley Palazzolo
Andrew Panian
Jae Park
Katlyn Parmley
Pritesh Patel

Without an ID, you are considered "naked in the eyes of Ritenour." Steven Gray was fully clothed throughout the day.

Companionship flourishs in after school activities such as marching band. Todd Allen and Gillem (Colt) Beck bonded in the band room.

Tensions can be alleviated after a long day. Relaxing after school, Charles Pleasant eased his mind by taking a much needed break.

Class of 2007

Tekeilya Pates
De'Vonne Patrick
Jay Pearson
Robert Peebles
Christian Peoples

Sandra Perales
Cody Perkins
John Perko
Chartyle Peterson
Misty Phillips

Allison Pierce
Giovanna Powell
Ashley Pratt
Christopher Pratt
Nathan Pupillo

Christina Puzzo
Erendida Ramirez
Kylee Raney
Sharon Ray
Jamie Record

James Reed
Marijana Regan
Megan Retter
Eunice Reyes
Robi Rhodes

De'Onte' Richardson
Lauren Richter
Claudia Rickard
Corey Riehl
Mauri Roberts

Shannan Roberts
Raymond Robertson
Kayla Robinson
Anthoneshea Rogers
Joshua Rollen

Erica Ross
Angel Roye
Christopher Rushing
Tomi Sale
Jamison Sanborn

One Step Up from Freshmen

by Tonia O'Neal

Sophomores told how they felt about their freshmen year, how things were better their sophomore year, and what it was like being one step closer to graduation.

It can be hard for newcomers to fit into life at high school. Ashley Smith stated, "I did not know my way around at first, and the work seemed harder." Homework was not the only thing that made adjusting to high school difficult. Katlyn Parmley commented, "It was hard my first year, mostly because there were people that just did not see things my way. I just did not fit in."

Two years into high school, 10th graders felt well adjusted to things. Nathan Dreier stated, "I am doing fine now. I feel more familiar with my surroundings. The work is harder, though." They had things figured out and looked forward to junior year. Danielle Dillingham said, "I look forward to being a junior because then I'll be one year away from graduating!" Not every one was as excited about their junior year. Amber Martin commented, "I am not looking forward to harder homework."

Overall, sophomores were excited about being a step closer to the finish line and walking across the stage.

Taking a year to familiarize themselves with the high school, the class of '06 is now gliding through their journey. Ashley Smith, Katlyn Parmley, Nathan Dreier, Danielle Dillingham, and Amber Martin represented only a few of the hundreds of sophomores that graduated from freshmen to sophomores.

Ana Sanchez Tena
Warren Sander
Terry Sanders
William Scherffius
Paul Schneider
Courtney Schofield
Bradley Schwartz

Melissa Secondine
Michael Shaw
Kyle Shepard
Emily Sherman
Jerrica Sherrell
Ashley Shoffner
Sarah Shoop

Ashley Shotwell
Adam Shoults
Robin Sifford
Kayla Silvagnoli
Heather Simpson
Lewis Small
Ashley Smith

Michael Smith
Rebekah Smith
Sabrina Smith
Brittane Smotherman
Joel Snyder
Yarelis Soto Cortes
Michael Spadarotto

Katrina St. John
Dale Staley
Anderson Stallings
Whitney Stallings
Amanda Steed
Markis Steele
Jeremy Steinbeck

Class of 2007

Michael Stevenson

Brooke Stone

Ashley Strantz

Rebecca Sumner

Katie Sweet

Micah Swope

Meagan Swyers

Natalie Sykora

Amber Taber

Krystle Taylor

Andrew Thomas

Chakeeta Thomas

James Thornhill

Christine Townes

Ryan Towns

Meagan Traw

Christopher Turner

Michelle Turner

Kristina Uelk

Daniel Uko

Karla Ullrich

Anthony Valenti

Andrea Vanmeter

Jacob Vargo

Nicholas Vaughn

Christopher Velk

Caleb Vinson

Katherine Vogel

Jason (Tuong) Vong

Hoa Vu

Jacklynn Walker

James Walker

Justin Walker

Abbie Wallace

Altoria Washington

Lasandra Washington

Brant Watson

Ryan Watson

Sarah Weatherford

Isaiah West

Stefany Westfall

Kayla Wheeler

Monica White

Samantha Wilcox

Jeron Wilkens

Shanice Williams

Theodore Williams

Tiffanie Williams

Jazmin Wilson

Jeremy Wilson

Matthew Wilson

Thomas Woods

Tiffany Yarbrough

Brittany Yount

Lauren Zelle

Class Officers: 08 Plans For Future

by Kristen Rehagen

The class officers of 2008 had a rough start. They were rushed into office right before Homecoming and forced to plan and carry out ideas for fundraisers and community service projects.

The new leaders, president Jasmine Johnson, vice-president Theresa Geno, secretary Kiesha Hamlin, and treasurer Isaiah Okohson-Reb, conducted fundraisers and sold shirts and suckers to prepare for their senior year. President Jasmine Johnson said, "I like helping raise money and supporting my class. It's a lot of fun."

They also did things to help the community. "We made a float for the Homecoming parade, and we held a fundraiser for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. I like being an officer because I know what I am doing is going to a good cause," said Theresa Geno.

The officers hoped to do some community service and wanted to hold more fundraisers for their senior year and other events along the way.

2008 Class Officers: President Jasmine Johnson, Vice-president Theresa Geno, Secretary Kiesha Hamlin, and Treasurer Isaiah Okohson-Reb.

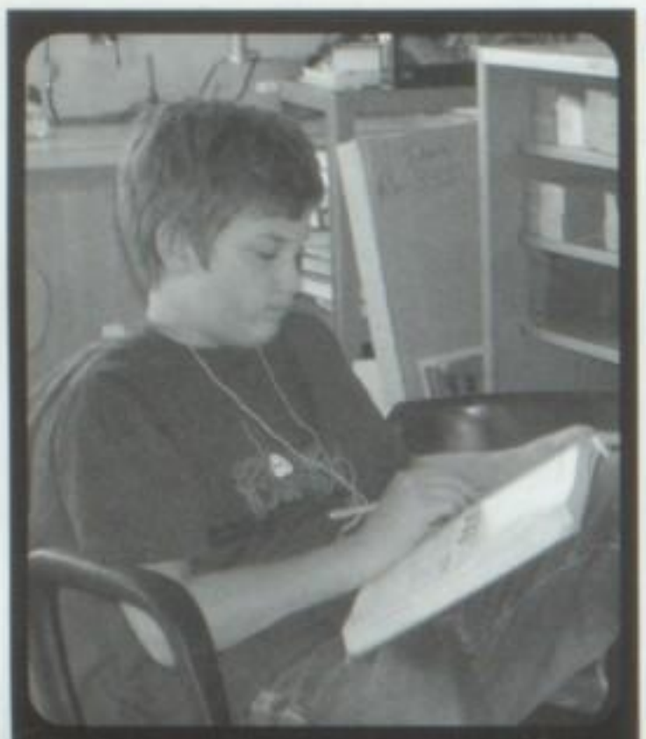
Carrie Abercrombie
Sarah Aden
Raymond Agoras
Felicia Akers
Blake Allen
Wendy Alletag
Ashley Anderson

Richard Andrade
Erin Anthony
Evan Antoine
Meghan Antonetti
Sean Asinger
Christopher Aubuchon
Dominique Avant

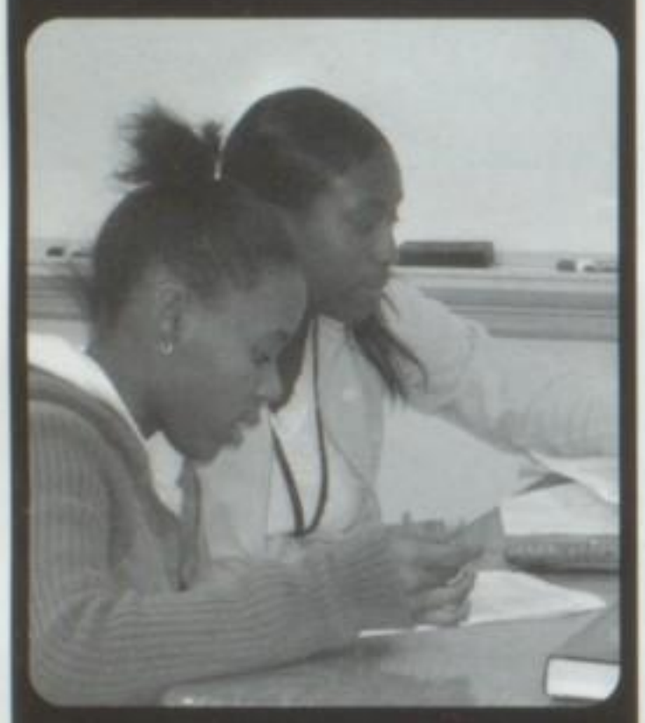
Ryan Avett
Susan Baker
Michael Bakies
Chelsey Baliva
Alicia Barnes
Amanda Barnhart
Jacob Barnhart

Nicolette Basemore
Christopher Bass
Dyimon Bastien
Joseph Behnk
Adam Bekuretsion
Danielle Belt
Tommy Bentley

Melissa Bickley
Brittany Billington
Matthew Black
Julian Blanco
Kimberly Blanke
Bo Blankenship
Michael Blanks



During C-hour Matt Marquand studies science. "C" hour was a new class designed to either help students improve their grades or to reward them for having no Ds or Fs.



Getting help with their math, Alicia Coleman and Natasha Lockridge work on homework during C-hour. C-hour took place every Wednesday from 1:50 to 2:50.

In Freshman Seminar, Kayla Furr, Kayla Gischer, and Brandon Silvers work to complete their tasks. This seminar helped students improve their vocabulary and reading skills, and also provided time for homework completion.

Class of 2008

Jacob Boehm
Jordan Bolden
Jessica Bonnell
Burgandy Bonser
Andrew Booker

Martin Booker
Jacob Bosecker
Virginia Both
Kyle Bowley
Dwuana Bradley

Jeremy Brandt
Amber Branstetter
Kera Brashear
Kelsey Breslin
Olia Bronitsky

Chad Brown
Dylan Brown
Edward Brown
Lawrence Brown
Trent Brown

Christopher Bryant
Sade Buchannon
Billy Burgess
Jeff Burks
Bradley Burley

Baron Burnett
Shannon Burnett
Brandyn Burnette
Myisha Burt
Andrew Burton

Justin Burton
Ian Butler
Christa Campbell
Christina Campbell
Keith Campbell

Richard Campbell
Theresa Campbell
Thomas Candela
Jessica Capone
John Capone

Kayla Capuano
Agatha Carr
Brittney Carver
Corey Cates
Nygia Chapman
James Chedester
Jessica Chisholm

Alexander Christian
Angelina Clarke
Alicia Claxton
Wendell Clay
Antonio Cole
Alicia Coleman
Alisha Coleman

Jacob Coleman
Brittany Collins
Stephen Combs
Sarah Connelly
Maricela Contreras
Alexis Cook
Damita Cook

Kelsey Cook
Mark Cooley
Patrick Cordia
Joshua Cox
Matthew Cross
Jessica Crowley
Kuan Cunningham

Sophie Curry
Ryan Curtis
Joshua Da Rosa
James Davis
Marquitta Davis
Joshua Delaney
Jessica Delk

A Grown- Up Pastime

by Kristy Johnson

Remember childhood Saturday mornings spent doing nothing but watching your favorite cartoons? Unfortunately, those days were long gone, as most high school students spent their Saturday mornings catching up on their sleep after a long week of homework and late-night cramming sessions. But they still remained loyal to their animated friends.

Some freshman students chose their favorite characters because of what they stood for. Tony Zerban said her favorite cartoon was Braceface: "She sets a good example for other young vegetarians."

However, others would have rather seen someone stand up against the lions of injustice: "Batman is the best, because not only does he have no superpowers whatsoever, but he is a hard worker. He can beat up anyone just with all his little gadgets. It's all about the hard work for me," vowed Jonathan Sonderman.

Freshmen had motives for choosing their favorite cartoon characters. Even though their busy lives left a minimal amount of time to enjoy such heroes in their entirety, their reasoning for choosing these characters matured over the years.

Imitating his favorite superhero, Jonathan Sonderman illustrates Batman's strength, while wearing his Batman shirt. Freshmen explained their close connection with various superheroes.

Freshmen

Andrew Dickens
Sharray Dickson
Philip Dienoff
Angela Digar
Jerremy Dillin
Sean Dolan
Elizabeth Donnelly

Matthew Donnelly
Miriyah Douglas
Destiny Drake
Bridgette Dreier
Richard Drummond
Lindsay Dunlap
Joseph Dunn

Alyssa Dunsing
Johnathan Earl
Cassaundra Eck
William Edgar
Jakki Edwards
Miguel Enriquez
Jamol Epting

Matthew Evans
Tichina Fair
Tiffany Fancher
Brittany Farias
Matthew Fetch
Donnell Fisher
Joshua Fisher

Thomas Flannery
Leeah Fortune
Kenneth Furbee
Kayla Furr
Tasha Gadomski
Alison Gammon
Gary Gandy

Ivan Garcia
Jesus Garcia
Victor Garcia
David Garcia-Moore
Jasmine Garrett
Samuel Gassner
Teresa Geno

Angela Gibson
Tiara Gilbert
Kayla Gischer
Jibra'l Gist
Aaron Glass
Joshua Goldacker
Salma Gomez

Sean Gordon
Shane Gordon
Adam Gore
Benjamin Green
Shannon Griffin
Brannon Griffith
Michael Guest

Class of 2008

Jordan Gunter
Staci Guyot
Mark Hagan
Christopher Haley
Alyssa Hall

Kiesha Hamlin (Gause)
Kayla Happe
Justin Hardy
Anna Harkins
Liette Harriel

Katrina Harris
Kyle Hawk
Phillip Hedlund
Andrew Heil
Ronnie Henderson

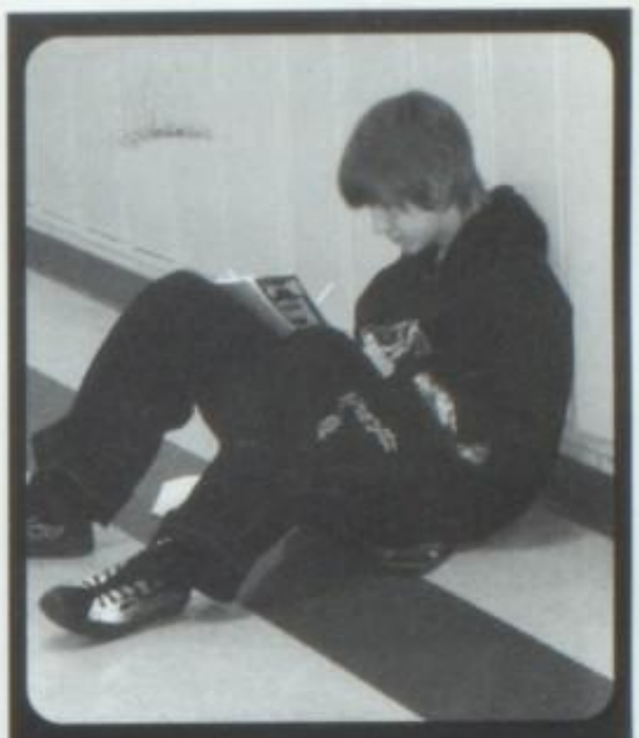
Sarah Hensley
Joshua Henson
Jose Hernandez
Nancy Hernandez
Justin Herndon

Joseph Hibler
Douglas Hicks
Michael Hill
Zachary Hinze
Robert Hoang

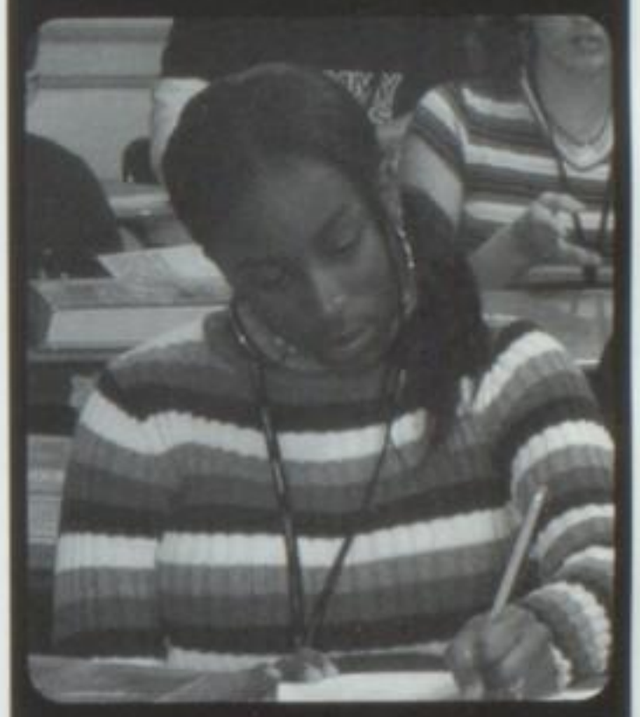
Ryan Hoffmann
Zach Hoffmann
Gregory Holtgrave
Andrew Holz
Adjo Honsou

Ashley Horton
Ashley House
Bradley House
Leon Houston
Emily Howard

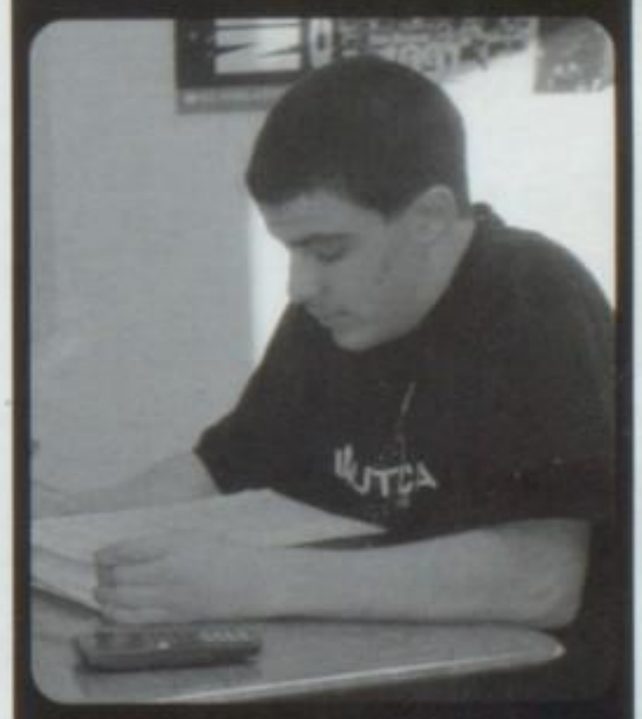
Shaniqua Hudson
Stephen Huff
Alexander Hughes
Karla Hunt
Robert Hunter



Spending time in the hall, Brad Sadler completes his make up work. After missing a class, teachers gave a limited time to turn in the missed assignments so that the student would not fall behind.



Concentrating, Melissa Bickley works to complete her assignment on time. The last few minutes of class were given to students to work on homework.



After listening to the teacher's instructions, Bradley Burley starts on his math work. Keeping his calculator close helped Bradley avoid mistakes when he calculated.

Class of 2008

What was your most embarassing moment?

by Kristy Johnson

"I fell out of my chair in the middle of class."
-Cory Schultz

"When I was at a softball game, I tried to get something out of the first aid kit, and I tripped over a bat. Everything fell out, and when I tried to put everything away, I tripped again, and the handle broke off. Mr. Moorman saw everything!"
-Courtnei Mudge

"At a school dance, I noticed I had a big hole in my skirt, right on my butt."
- Shelley McGowan

"I tripped over a soccer ball when I tried to kick itat one of my soccer games."
– Matt Williford

"I fell down the stairs when my class was going to a different room and I knocked everyone else over, too."
- Mary Beth Stroup

"I was getting tickled by Rachel Valdez during a class, and she pushed me out of my chair onto the floor."
- Phil Dienoff

Jamie Huskey
Jason Irby
Mohammed Jaber
Riham Jaber
Alyssa Jackson

Derek Jackson
Dominique Jackson
Alexander Jacobsen
Danielle Jamerson
Jordan Jentsch

Bryonna Johnson
Christopher Johnson
Christopher Johnson
Dearra Johnson
Jasmine Johnson

Kellen Johnson
Steven Johnson
Brittany Jones
Brittany Jones
James Jones

Carlos Jordan
Anthony Kaiser
Stephanie Kaufhold
Kristopher Kemp
Michelle Kempf

Southixay Keopine
Sylvia Kereda
Michael Key
Cory Kinkeade
Amanda Klenke

Nathan Kramer
Bobbie Kreamalmeyer
Bradley Kroeger
Christina Krug
Kyle Lambert

Cassandra Lammert
Andrew Lampe
Antonio Langston
Carly Larson
Dustin Latham

Freshmen

Candace Lee
Alyssa Lefever
Dominique Leonhardt
Ryan Levo
Jonathan Lewis
Orlandez Lewis
Natasha Lockridge

Jesse Loeffelman
Jalesa Lofton
Brandon London
Justin Long
Samuel Lopez
Ashley Lu
Darryn Luckey

Sherry Luu
Amanda Lyerla
Christopher Mach
Thomas Mack
Jessica MacNair
Courtney Madsen
Jeffrey Marcou

Richard Mark
Jessica Markham
Matthew Marquand
Kati Marshall
Justin Martin
Tony Martin
Chris Mattingly

Terrence McCauley
Corey McCollister
Tamika McCulley
Aaron McDaniel
Aneisha McDonald
Lance McDonald
Ashleigh McDougald

Zachary McFarland
Shelley McGowan
Jacob McGrotty
Danielle McKeiman
Dominique McNeil
Bulmaro Medina-Ramos
George Meisinger

Timothy Metze
Leslie Mikel
Stephanie Mikulus
Jessica Milham
Gregory Miller
Samantha Miller
Robert Mills

Alicia Milton
Aaron Mitchell
Brandon Mitchell
Tyrone Mitchell
Ana Molina
Mark Montalbano
Brianna Montgomery

Class of 2008

Julius Montgomery
Bradley Moonshine
Brandon Moonshine
Samantha Moore
Davey Morgan
Kevin Morgan
Kevin Morris

Cortnei Mudge
Jeric Murphy
Kyle Murphy
Amber Nasello
Paul Nator
Chelsea Nester
Adam Nickelson

Christian Nieto
Paige O'Neal
Tangela Oatis
Isaiah Okohson-Reb
Natalie Olive
Justin Ortiz
Christopher Pace

Erick Pachaco
Aisshe Palm
Josshe Palm
Michael Parker
Shayla Parker
Jaquis Payne
Chantrelle Perkins

Charles Perkins
Cory Perkins
Vance Perkins
Mallorie Peterson
Cody Phillips
Michaela Phillips
Nathan Pillarick

Merrisa Politte
Meagan Ponseti
Tiffany Porter
Jasmin Portis
Julie Portwood
Joshua Potter
Ashley Power

Kassandra Pratt
Samantha Pratt
Kelsey Pritchett
Ryan Pryor
Lillian Puder
Philip Puzzo
Brittany Quain

Francisco Ramirez
Kenneth Rawson
Byron Ray
Ryan Ray
Brandi Reardean
Jasmine Reece
Quintin Reed

Freshmen

Kristen Rehagen
Adriana Reyes
Rachel Rice
Tara Rice
Joshua Richard

Jacqueline Ridenhour
Chad Riegel
Byron Rimpson
Eric Rivers
Melissa Robinson

Bryson Robinson
Kimberly Robinson
Melissa Robinson
Tamia Robinson
Rachel Rodenberg

Charles Rodgers
Janette Rodgers
Tiffany Rodgers
Markita Rogers
Christian Rosas

Nathan Roussin
Francisco Rubio
Crystal M. Ruebel
Angela Ruffner
Alyssa Russell

Megan Ryan
Tyler Ryan
David Sabin
Brad Sadler
Jessie Salamone

Justin Salini
Casey Sanborn
Maggie Sander
Amanda Sanders
William Sartors

Candace Sautman
James Schafer
Ashlee Schkerke
Kayci Schneider
Lara Schueller

What's your biggest pet peeve?

by Kristen Rehagen

"When girls shut me down."
-Brent Sweeney

"The word IRK!"
-Erin Verble

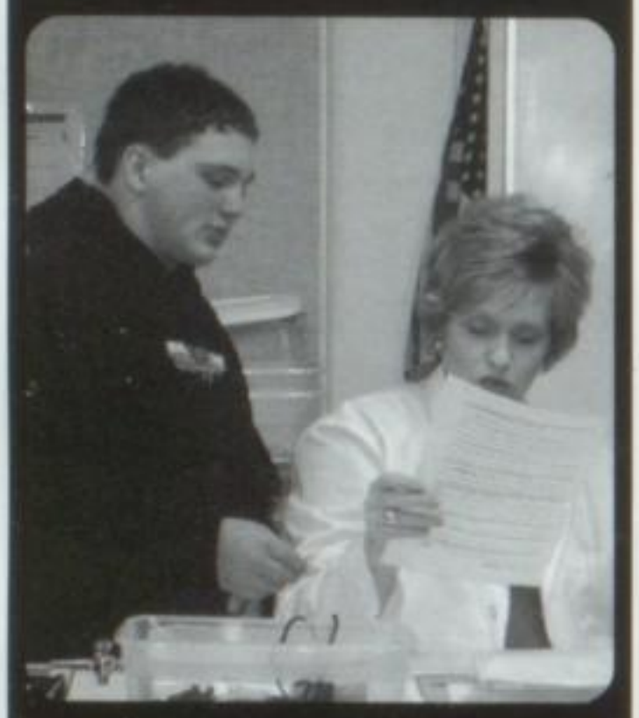
"When people act stupid!"
-Cody Phillips

"Nail biters!"
-Phillip Hedlund

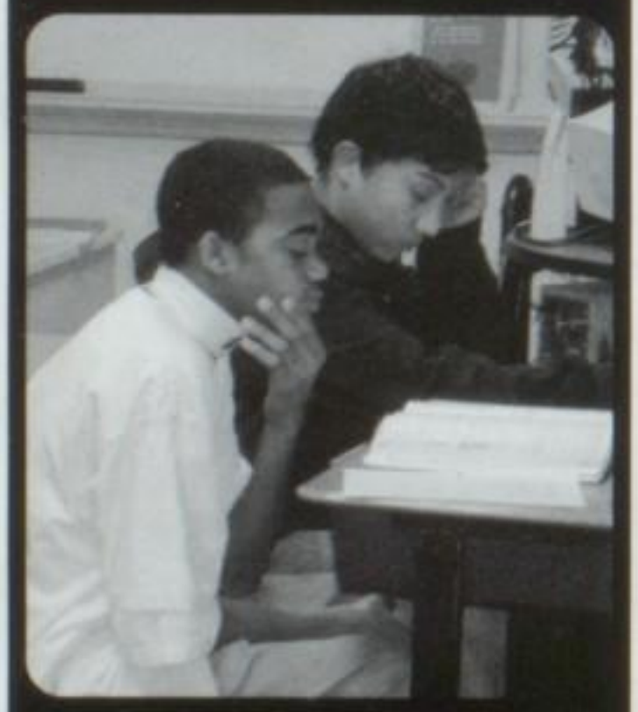
"When people fart in class!"
-Tangela Oatis

"When people wear clothes that don't match!"
-Jacob McGrotty

During Ms. Alfermann's Geometry class, Blake Allen and Richard Andrade work as quickly as possible to avoid having homework. By the end of class, both had completed half of their work.



During science class, Patrick Cordia reviews his work with his teacher, Mrs. Swyres. After Patrick reviewed his class work, he turned it in.



Every day, Ms. Alfermann teaches her Pre-algebra/Algebra class something new. Bryson Robinson and Carlos Jordan integrated the new lesson into what they had previously learned.

Class of 2008

Cory Schultz
Corey Sharp
Lyndsey Shaw
Kenneth Shumate
Antaniece Sills

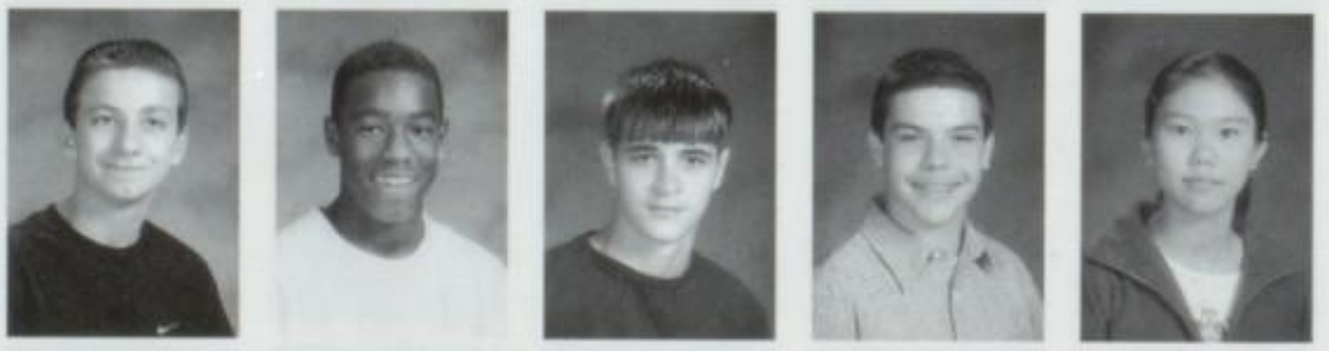
Elise Simino
Courtney Smith
Kayla Smith
Laura Smith
Megan Smith

Timothy Smith
William Smith
Josselyn Smith-Rodgers
Derrick Snow
Jeff Soehngen

Jonathan Sonderman
Christal Southard
Shannon Stabler
Nicholas Stead
Elliotte Stebleton

John Steen
Adam Stenger
Adam Stenshoel
Christopher Stogner
Michael Stokes

Danielle Strantz
Mary Stroup
Matthew Stukenbroeker
Ryan Stumpf
Jason Sumner



Luke Surtin
Delector Swanigan
Daniel Swearson
Brent Sweeney
Michelle Tang

Meaghan Taylor
Tyler Tetrault
Alicia Tharp
Samantha Thayer
Jessica Thoma

Self-Evaluation

by Kristy Johnson

Everyone has something about themselves they would like to change. The question, "If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?" caused a number of answers to spring to freshman students' minds. For some, it was something as minimal as wanting to have better study habits; for others, it was as big as plastic surgery.

Freshmen reported that they would rather make themselves more pleasing on the inside than the outside. "I wish I could be more serious. Everyone says I joke around too much," stated Amanda Klenke. Michael Hill has a simple wish for himself: "I want to be smarter!"

Some did remark that they would rather beautify themselves. "I would want to change my looks more, because I hate looking like my dad," said Jessica Bonnell. Others had rather devastating experiences due to their physical quirks: "I wish I could be taller. I would change my height before anything else. I hate being short," said Thomas Candela.

Many freshmen dreamed about changing something about themselves, but as the year went on, they were able to become more comfortable in their own skin.

In his self-evaluation, freshman Thomas Candela expresses his desire to be taller. Between freshman and senior year, most males grew approximately half a foot.

Antonio Thomas
Brittany Thomas
Cory Thomas
Hellena Thomas
Kenneth Thomas
Libby Thomas
Michael Thomas

Katherine Thompson
Sherron Thompson
Tiffany Throgmorton
Brittany Tinnin
Parker Tinsley
Michael Toler
Justin Trim

Phi Trinh
Nikole Trolinger
Sierra Troupe
Larryandrew Tubbs
Brittney Turnbough
Patrick Utley
Rachel Valdez

Derrick Valley
Amber Vantieghem
Kimberly Vaughn
Erin Verble
Joseph Vines
Huong Vu
Bethany Wagner

Jonathon Walters
Ben Walther
Warren Washington
William Wasmuth
Jill Weinhold
Jessica Weiterman
Griffin Wesche

Class of 2008

What's the worst advice you've ever received?

by Kristen Rehagen

"I was told to lick a metal pole during the winter and my tounge got stuck!"
-Delector Swanigan

"To jump in front of a bus."
– Shannon Griffin

"If you jump off a roof while holding an umbrella, the umbrella will slow you down."
-Doug Hicks

"I was told to go swim in a river without any clothes on!"
-Ashley House

"Take candy from strangers."
-Liette Harriel

"I was told to give up."
-Ryan Levo

Brandon Westbrook
Donoven Whitby
Vaughn White
Anthony Wilbourn
Brandon Wilburn

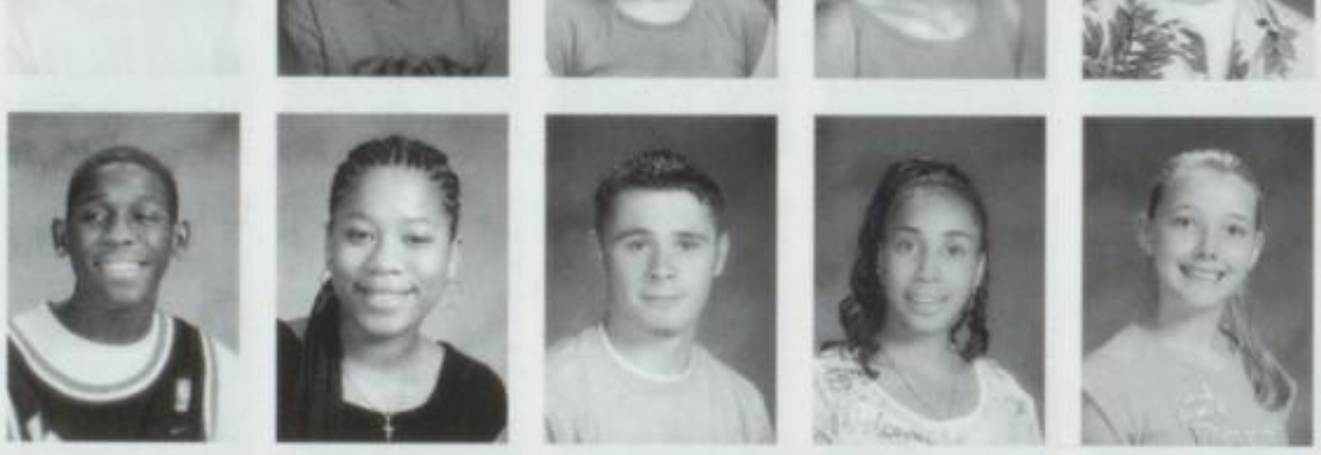
Adam Willhite
Alex Williams
Deanna Williams
Heather Williams
Letwon Williams

Olivia Williams
Terell Williams
Whitney Williams
Matthew Williford
Bridget Willis

Amy Wilson
James Wilson
Joann Wilson
Laura Wilson
Michael Windom

Keith Winston
Erik Woodfin
Lea Woods
Shawna Woods
Jeffrey Wright

Jesse Wright
Jessica Wright
Steven Wuest
Raquel Yancy
Jacqueline Yocum



Robert Young
Claudia Zambrano
Vincent Zangara
Toni Zerban

Leading To Improvement:
Staff and Students Unite

by Chesha Bizan

To help teachers bond with students, the high school implemented a new "C-day" schedule in which teachers helped students with problems they had in their classes. Any students who received a D or an F on their report card in any of their classes participated in a tutoring class for an hour every Wednesday. Anyone who received a C or better was rewarded with an enrichment period while the rest of students were being tutored.

The enrichment period consisted of options ranging from movie time, study hall, or time in the library or a computer lab. Social Studies teacher Ms. Nilges recommended, "Enrichment students should have the opportunity to go home, providing more incentive to earn enrichment and more time to spend helping those who need to be tutored." English teacher Mrs. Haar-Chapman enjoyed C-day. She said that it helped her "interact with students on a one-on-one basis" and get to know the students better.

Some teachers brought in different candies and foods to bond with their students. Though the stereotype that teachers and students cannot relate to each other existed, C-day helped break through that stereotype.

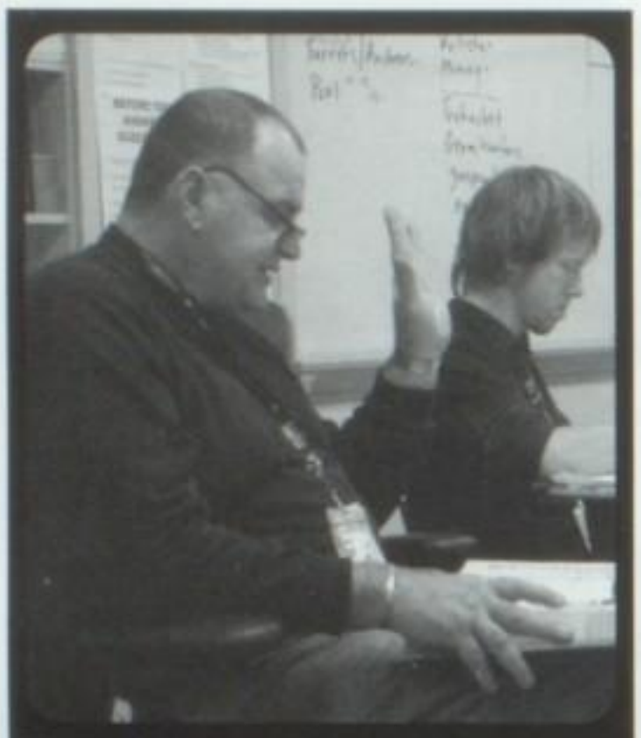
District Board Members. *Front Row:* Ruth Greco, Bob Young, Kathy Kuo. *Back Row:* Tom Drennan, Gary Stein, Brad Thomas, George Albin, III.

Doris Abernathy, SSD T.A.
Dorothy Allen, Food Service
Gillian Allen, Family and Consumer Science
Sandy Angle, SSD
David Applebaum, Art
Mary Ashley, Secretary
Lori Baker, SSD

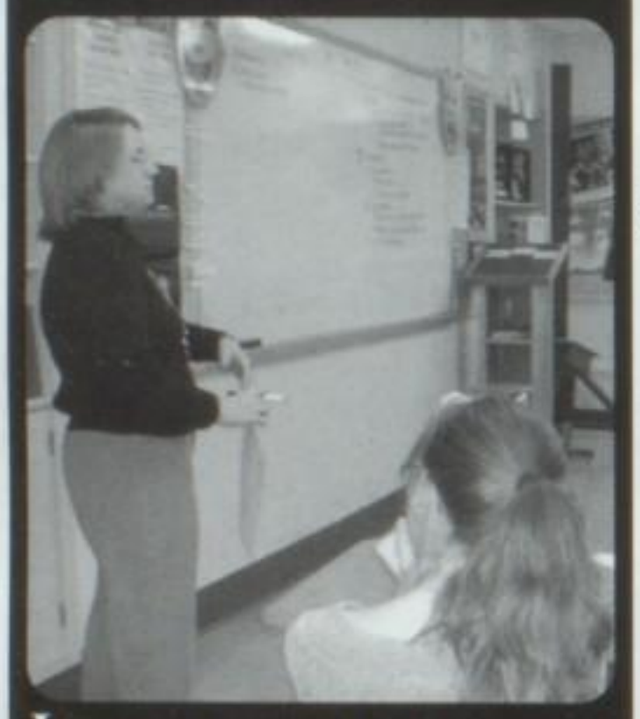
Jane Bannester, Language Arts
Don Barcal, Mathematics
Michele Baskin, Science
Diana Beard, Art
Laura Bedo, SSD
Richard Bell, Music
Patrick Blake, Mathematics

Sue Boswell, Secretary
Mary Bowers, Social Studies
Anne Boyd, Language Arts
Karen Bradford, SSD
Deborah Brennan, Secretary
Norma Brooks, Social Studies
Mary Buttice, SSD

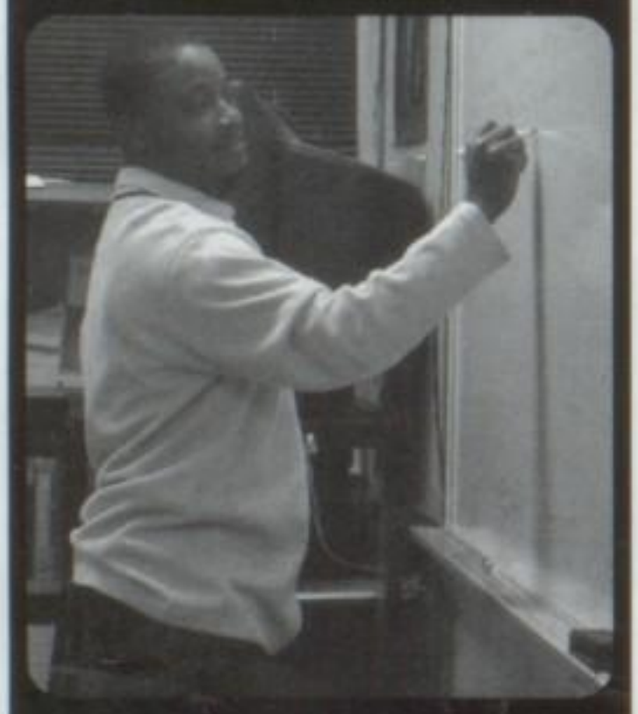
Earl Cannon, Custodial
Karen Carter, Interpreter
Raul Carvente, Custodial
Sharon Carver, Language Arts
Moira Cavanaugh, Language Arts
Ben Clark, Food Service
Ingrid Clark-Jackson, Assistant Principal



Lounging in his usual chair, Coach Owens instructs his students. Some teachers adopted a more laid-back posture while leading their classes.



Lecturing to students, Ms. Cavanaugh explains the agenda for the day while the students listen. In Intro to Communications, students focused on listening skills.



Visual learners learn best when the lesson is illustrated. Mr. Peterson accommodated students who learned through this style by jotting down notes on the board.

Staff

Dean Cochran, Foreign Language
Donna Coleman, Secretary
Karla Conrey, Mathematics
Michelle Cullinane, SSD
David Deem, Librarian

Christina DeMuri, Business
Tom DiMaria, Alternative Learning
Helen Douglas-Taylor, Family and Consumer Science
Douglas Eaves, SSD
Laura Eberle, Science

Ron Estes, Mathematics
Roosevelt Ferguson, Assistant Principal
Dan Field, Social Studies
Kim Finney, SSD T.A.
Suzanne Fortune, Physical Education

Geraldine Foston, Food Service
Jodie Fowler, Science
Evelyn Fox, Secretary
Cathy Geisz, Guidance Counselor
David German, Mathematics

Anita Gilliland, Language Arts
Angela Graves, Interpreter
Jason Graves, Mathematics
Jason Green, Science
Hoyt Gregory, Social Studies

Lori Greiner, Science
Louise Haar-Chapman, Language Arts
Rick Haley, Science
Rhonda Haniford, Assistant Principal
Juanita Harned, Mathematics

Hadley Haux, Music
Abigail Hawkenscarter, Science
Jack Heeter, Business
Cynthi Hill, Food Service
Joseph Hill, Business

Chris Isaacs, Social Studies
Karis Jackson, SSD T.A.
Elvira Javier, Spanish
Hope Jeffery, Language Arts
Glenda Jenson, Food Service

Deloris Jones, Custodial
Peggy Jones, Secretary
Richard Jones, Foreign Language
Kelly Jorden, Business
Peggy Jura, Secretary
Megan Jurs, Language Arts
Laura Kaufman, Mathematics

Rick Kordenbrock, Social Studies
Bill Korte, Principal
Ellen Kubicek, ESL
Patti Kudrna, Interpreter
Angela Lane, Science
Robert Lawrence, Jr., Assistant Principal
Karen Lehman, Family and Consumer Science

Donna Mabrey-Lowry, Foreign Language
October Maclin, SSD
Ashley May, Language Arts
Lisa May, SSD T.A.
Dan McClain, Science
Michael McClintock, SSD
Mary McFarland, Physical Education

Marti McMahan, Secretary
Kathleen Mead, Guidance Counselor
Art Miller, Physical Education
Marvin Moehle, SSD
Stephen Moorman, Science
Ronald Mueller, Custodial
Laura Nagy, Family and Consumer Science

Terror on Two Wheels:

Hey! Nice Bike

by Sara Lewis

Oftentimes, students were surprised to learn that their teachers, often considered boring drones, actually had personalities and interests other than juvenile torture. These interesting characteristics spilled over into these teachers' modes of transportation.

Business teacher Mr. Hill preferred to ride a bicycle to work. The miles that he racked up daily on his contraption had a number of benefits. "I enjoy the physical rewards of riding," explained Mr. Hill. There were hazards that he had to be wary of when spending his time peddling, but he felt that the precautions were all worth it. After a long day, Mr. Hill liked to "ride over highway overpasses and look down at the traffic that I'm NOT stuck in!"

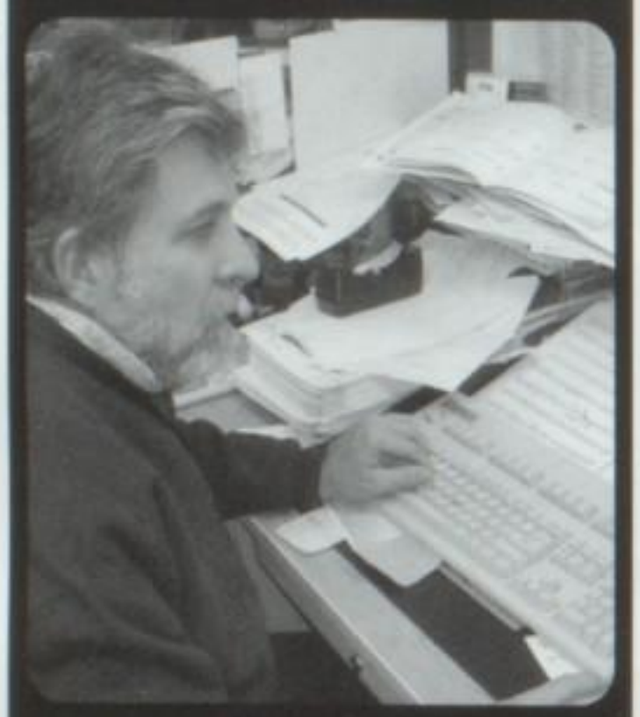
Social studies teacher Mr. Bell also used non-conventional ways of getting around. His vehicle was a motorcycle. Mr. Bell enjoyed his motorcycle because, "riding a motorcycle is fast and cool, but most importantly, the chicks dig it!" He advised that riders "should take a motorcycle safety course." Mr. Bell thought that everyone should look into motorcycles because of their cost-efficient gas mileage, concluding, "They're super cheap!"

Not all teachers were unadventurous old geezers. These staff members displayed their personalities through their quirky modes of transportation.

Choosing to travel to school in an unorthodox fashion, Mr. Hill rides his bike for his commute. His alternative form of vehicle was one quirk that set him apart from the rest of the staff.

Staff

Many teachers try to make the classroom a fun environment. Ms. Kaufman began her class with a good laugh before starting her dialy lesson.



Before starting to conduct his orchestra students, Mr. Peek takes a minute to enter attendance into his computer. Attendance was a tedious, yet necessary task for teachers to fulfill.

Pondering how much advice to administer, Ms. Mead folds her hands in contemplation. Counselors dispensed information to students on a daily basis.

Jennifer Nilges, Social Sciences
Jerry Nolen, Athletic Director
Louisa Olney, Food Service
Don Owens, Social Studies
David Peek, Music

Wendi Pendergrass, SSD
Donna Perrot, Language Arts
Catherine Peterson, SSD
Terrance Peterson, Language Arts
Mary Jane Petralli, Mathematics

Cheston Plegge, SSD
Kim Quain, Guidance Counselor
Susan Quinn, Food Service
Chad Rackers, School Resource Officer
Sally Raney, Secretary

Tina Ridenhour, Food Service
Rick Rodgers, Science
Sue Ross, Mathematics
Beulah Schneider, Food Service
Phylis Schuchman, Secretary

Esthere Scott, SSD
Michelle Scott, SSD
Susan Scott, Foreign Language
Georgia Seibel, Nurse
Scott Shaw, Custodial

Julie Shelton, Social Studies
Rick Shelton, Physical Education
Jessie Smith, Custodial
Shelly Spreitler, Physical Education
Jason Spurgeon, Business

Jennifer Stanfill, Business
Matt Steitz, Art
Catherine Stone, Social Studies
Sarah Svoboda, SSD
Charles Swalley, Language Arts

Kristin Swyres, Science
Tom Szlanda, Business
Latonia Tabron, Mathematics
Ron Tegerdine, Health
Carla Theiss, Guidance Counselor

Geek to Chic:
How Teachers Used To Be

by Tonia O'Neal

For some students, it is hard to place teachers into the same high school situation that they are in. Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Mrs. Lehman's senior high school picture showed her transformation from student to teacher - geek to chic.

The high school memories. From rebel cliques to goody athletes, Ritenour's teachers shared what they were really like in high school, why they changed, and where they classified themselves at present.

Cliques: from nerds to jock, Ritenour teachers fell into every category. Mrs. Lehman, the Child Development teacher, commented, "I was in more of the nerd clique during high school. I was also a goody athlete; I always wore Oxford shirts and penny loafers."

Ritenour's teachers were more than nerds. Ms. Stone, a social studies teacher said, "In high school I was more of a rebel." German teacher Herr Jones stated, "I was a band geek, but I had a girlfriend!"

The one thing that never changed was change itself. Ms. Stone commented, "Maturity has changed me. One learns to work within the system to affect change." Not every teacher at Ritenour high felt like they had changed. Mr. Applebaum, an art teacher, said, "I did not change. I simply grew up."

Hip, creative, and calm were just a few of the terms teachers used to describe their characters. Mrs. Lehman said, "I feel much more diversified now then when I was younger." Herr Jones now identified himself as "cool, macho, and very hot!"

Kristin Thompson, Mathematics
Tricia Thrasher, SSD
Lucille VanAlstine, Language Arts/ Foreign Language
Dave Waldmann, Art
Judy Wallis, Food Service

April Warren-Grice, Language Arts
Mike Wheeler, Language Arts
Sharol Wilkes, Food Service
Laurie Williams, Assistant Principal
Lisa Williams, Language Arts

Carrie Wilson, Language Arts
Lisa Wirtz-Hampton, SSD
Ken Wren, Guidance Counselor
Steven Wright, School Resource Officer

Leatha Wyatt, SSD
Gary Zenk, Art
Ann Zimmermann, SSD

Strong Language

Encouragement, Motivation and Friendships

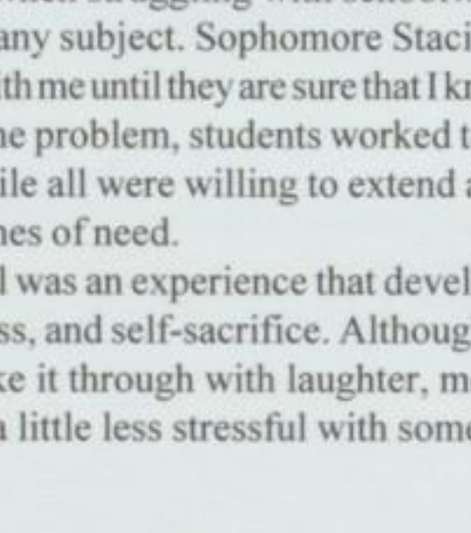
by Chesha Bizan and Nick Richardson

The buzz of the florescent lights looming overhead and pencils tap-dancing on tabletops as the clock ticks precious time away. Staring down at the paper in front of you, aggravation begins to settle in as you ask yourself the infamous question, "How in the world am I supposed to do this?" You begin to notice all of the little things that seem to only distract you: shuffling papers, the whirr of the fan blades above, and you feel like you are about to pop. Disparaging words begin to barge in on your thoughts as the idea of ominous failure haunts you; ah, the joys of being a high school student. As you glance around the room, you notice your classmates seem to be flying through the problems with ease. How do they do it? In desperation, you tap a friend's shoulder and ask for help. After a few brief examples and encouraging words, it hits you; you understand!

The road through high school was often a long and winding one; full of complications and many long nights of caffeine and homework. Since the school year was full of many academic challenges, students turned to their friends for encouragement and motivation. Sometimes the stress was too much to handle, and these were the times when friendships were vital to high school students. Senior Keisha White explained, "When I feel stressed and worried, friends are there to pick me up and keep me going." This was a common worry among most students while trying to decide what to do with their lives. Through good and bad times, friends offered supportive words and encouraged each other to keep going.

Sharing ideas, peer editing, and criticizing constructively helped students further themselves academically. Many students found strength in each other when struggling with schoolwork. Friends could be counted on for help in any subject. Sophomore Staci Behrens said, "In biology, my friends work with me until they are sure that I know what I am doing." No matter how difficult the problem, students worked together to overcome academic challenges. While all were willing to extend a hand, friends offered the best motivation in times of need.

High school was an experience that developed great friendships through trial and error, stress, and self-sacrifice. Although it was a difficult road, friendships helped us make it through with laughter, motivation, and encouragement. The experience was a little less stressful with someone to lean on.



Struggling to work his muscles, Marqus Johnson, a senior, uses strength acquired in Basic Weight Training to painstakingly lower the bar.

Working in the hall, Britany Brown and Kaneisha Wilson prepare for their final in Foods and Nutrition. The quiet, calm hallway was their optimal environment for studying.

Tediously painting away, Ladonna Wright and Nick Vaughn struggle to create accurate self portraits. Classes such as painting encouraged students to explore their creativity.

"In sewing class, I helped a friend make pajama pants. She couldn't sew the seam on the legs, so I showed her how."
-Twylaa Taylor, 11th grade

"In Mr. Blake's class, my friends break down the problems that I do not understand into steps. Then they explain each of the steps in depth so I can understand."
-Avery Kemp, 12th grade

"We work in groups in my social studies class. If someone in our group doesn't understand, there is always someone else that can explain the problems."
-Tim Meyers, 10th grade

Advanced Child Development provides the opportunity for different age groups to interact. Amanda Brinker, a senior, bonded with the children in her class.

Preparing for a class activity, a group of students meet outside of their Missouri History class. Costumes added flare to class activities.

Classes such as Anatomy sometimes make students venture outside of their comfort zone. Lydia Rodenberg explored the inner structure of a feline.

Jeric Murphy completes the first step in making chocolate chip cookies. Skills such as baking learned in Foods and Nutrition could be used throughout one's life.

Playing and Creating

Students express themselves through rhythm

by Erin Lampe

After a hard day filled with screaming teachers, forgotten math homework, and a not so eventful presentation, what would one do to unwind?

Senior Chris Stock used art to unwind. He drew portraits and painted. "Art helps me to express myself to my full ability." Chris has loved art since he was six: "I got into art because it was something that I liked to do, and I was good at it."

Art was not only a way to release anger and frustration, but it was also a form of self-expression. Senior Shauna Moore thought of art in a different light, and said, "Art is fun and can be used to express yourself, but I think that it is used for entertainment when you are bored and want to pass the time."

"Art can be done by anyone at anytime," explained sophomore Kylee Raney. "It gives me a chance to express my creativity."

Freshman Jessica Delk began taking art classes because her friends were in it. Jessica continued with art because she found it exhilarating. "The hardest thing I have ever had to do in art is painting portraits, but I had a really great teacher that encouraged me, and with her help, I got through it."

Furthermore, the art teachers were influential to students' success. Chris said, "My idol is art teacher Mr. Applebaum because he knows a lot about art and finds a way to relate to what I am doing, plus he helps me understand the correct way to do something."

Besides art, music was used to help some students cool off. Junior Lauren Wildgrube played several different instruments and also sang in A Capella Choir; "Music is a way for me to reveal my personal thoughts without actually saying them and without people knowing my innermost feelings." She thought that music was a good way for people to let go, forget about what was going on in their lives, and just be a part of the music.

"Art is fun and can be used to express yourself."

Shauna Moore, 12th ground

Senior Josh Daly played in Symphonic Band, Chamber Winds, and he was also a part of All-State Band. "My favorite thing about band is the concerts; it makes me feel good to be able to make other people feel good because of my music." Josh began playing the guitar in fifth grade. "My dad bought me a guitar and ever since then I have been picking up many different instruments, so I owe it all to him." Josh planned on attending Indiana University and majoring in music. "The most important thing to remember in playing music is that you have to feel it, not only hear it or play it."

From painting a portrait to listening to their favorite songs, students used their time to do their favorite things. Art and music were ways to unwind and put a peaceful end to a long, stressful day.

Putting the final touches on his ceramic creation, senior Jeff Johnson finishes his final pot of the year. Students made between six and nine pots in a given semester.

In the early stages of becoming master artist, junior Ryan Grier and sophomore Shiva Jafari learn basic painting skills in Mr. Zenk's Foundations of Art class. The class taught basic art principles for future art classes.

Tuning their basses, sophomores Marissa Moore and Anthony Clayton prepare for orchestra. Tuning was vital in keeping the music clean and crisp.

A monochromatic painting contains only one color but utilizes several shades of it. Junior Jacob Cordin drew the outline for his picture in design class.

Playing the bassoon, sophomore Adam Shoultz practices an instrument other than his normal one, the saxophone. Many students in band played more than one instrument, which expanded the group's horizons.

"I plan on attending Cal University and major in art animation, so right now all I am worried about is building my portfolio."
- Nick Luft, 12th grade

"I use music notes to express my private thoughts without using words on my guitar and piano."
- Lauren Wildgrube, 11th grade

"Art is how I get my ideas out that I enjoy and think other people will enjoy, also."
- Tom Hill, 12th grade

"I use music as an escape door. Whatever is bothering me fades away when I play."
- Tamia Robinson, 9th grade

A Global Dialect

Math and science help students relate everyday life to the world

by Kristy Johnson

The Pythagorean Theorem. Einstein's Theory of Relativity. The Law of Cosines. Newton's Second Law of Motion. These terms may seem like a foreign language to many, but math and science are actually the only two languages that are universal throughout the world. If some theorem is thought up in France, it means the same exact thing to a mathematician in China. If someone in Japan discovers a new element, it means just as much to an American scientist. There are a number of languages and arts in the world that must be translated in other parts of the planet, but math and science are the only ones where every rule, every theorem, every postulate, and every law mean the same thing no matter where one goes.

Teachers tried to stress the importance of math and science to students on a daily basis. Fun projects and activities were often used in an attempt to get students involved and excited about the two subjects. "I like doing different kinds of projects because they provide a different way for students to see and learn," said science teacher Mr. Green. For students with other interests, these activities helped them be more eager to learn math and science. Junior Mike Cash said he helped fellow students with math a lot this year; "Math just comes easy to me, I don't know why. I always end up helping everyone else with their homework."

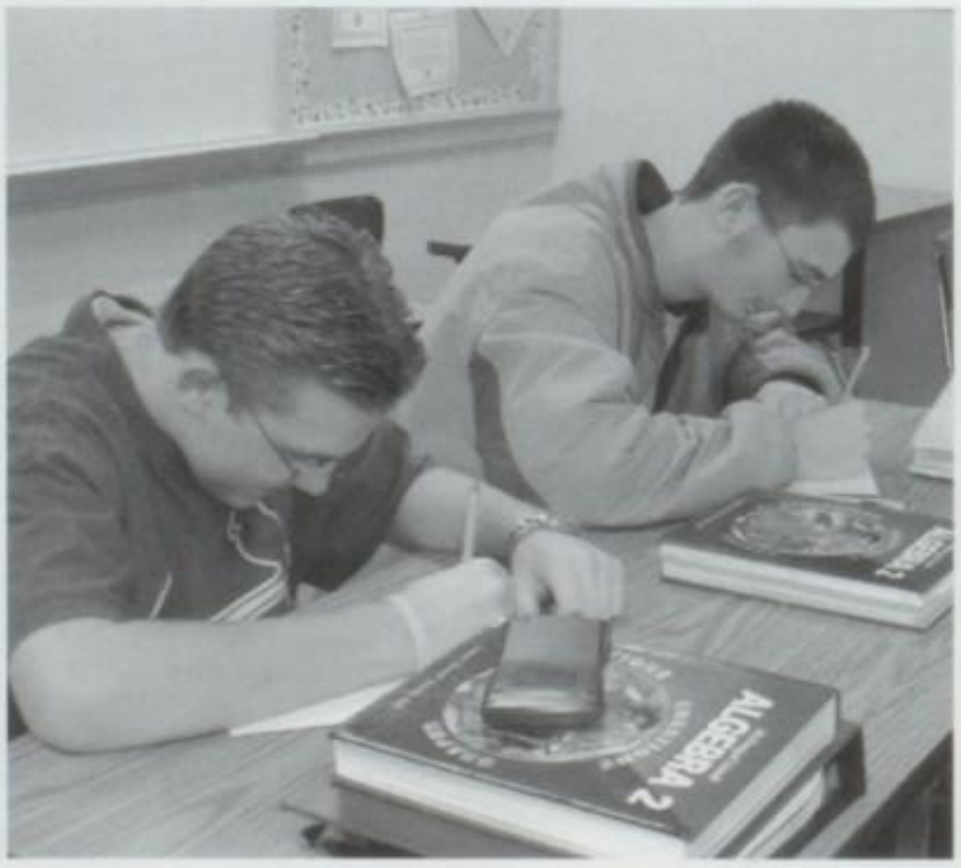
Many students had trouble relating math science to real life. "I guess I would like math more if I was better at it. I don't understand why I have to learn all the stuff we have to half of the time," said freshman Tasha Gadomski. For those who know what they want to do with the rest of their lives, they might not have understood just how the Law of Sines would help them, for instance. "Do I use math when I paint a painting? No. Therefore, why did I have to spend hours upon hours of my public school education learning about it?" said senior Chris Stock.

On the other hand, students excelled at math and/or science, because they liked the way every question had an answer, and there was always a solution to every problem. Senior Alex Klenke said math was his favorite subject because, "Every problem has a solution, and it makes you think." Students who enjoyed math and/or science found that it was just easier for them to understand and do well at.

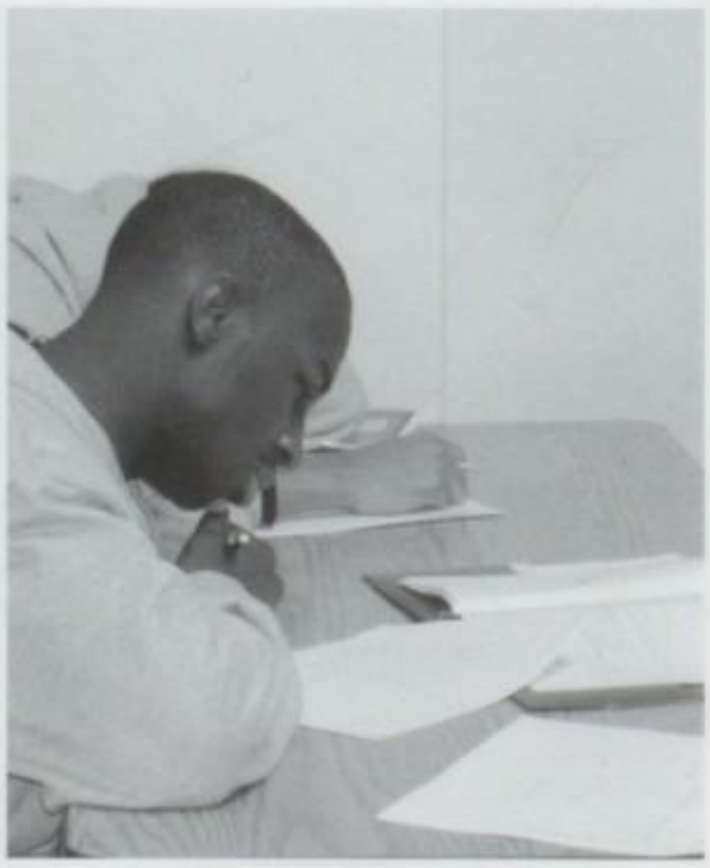
> "Math is about patterns. There are patterns in everything."
>
> -Mrs. Ross

Math and science are subjects understood the same way worldwide. "I am from Mexico, and we learned all of the same things there that we learn here in the United States. Everything means the same here as it did in Mexico, so I haven't had to learn anything new because I moved here," said senior Edlyn Sic. Even though one might not have enjoyed them much this year, these subjects are part of a language that spans the continents. Whether or not one appreciates the lessons learned now, math and science will no doubt be a part of all of our lives at some point in time.

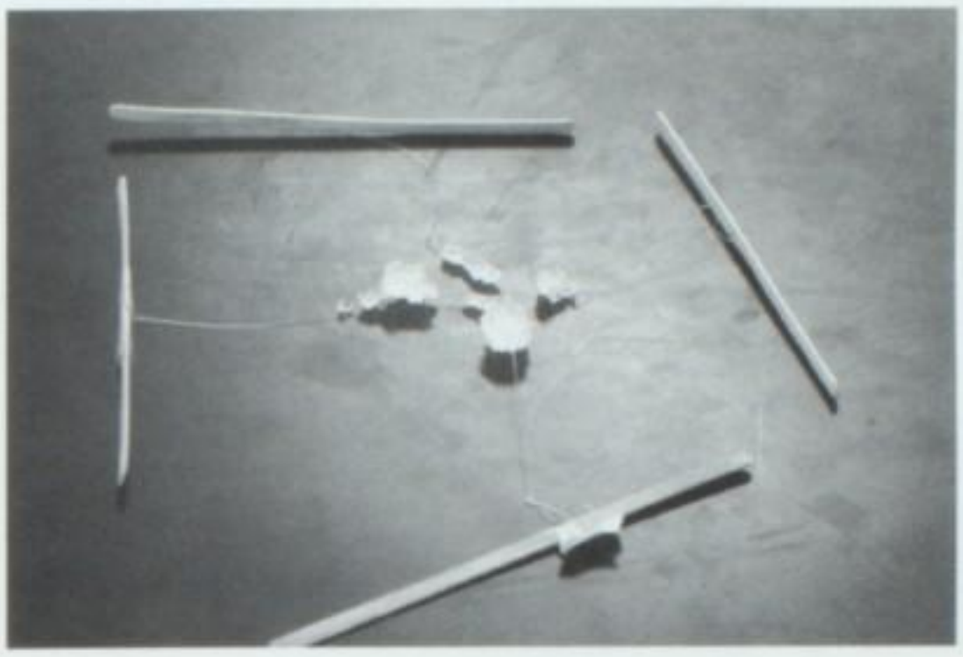
"Mathematics is about patterns. There are patterns in everything. You use logical thinking when finding patterns, and math helps hone these skills. There are patterns in the English language, there are patterns throughout history, and there are patterns throughout math and science. Patterns are everywhere and therefore, math and science are everywhere," stated mathematics teacher, Ms. Ross.



In Algebra II, sophomore Joel Snyder and junior Nick Kaiser work on their assignment. Algebra II teaches students to use applications such as Kramer's Rule and Matrices.



Furrowing his eyebrows, junior Tramez Roberson studies for finals in his Algebra II class. Math classes demanded concentration from the left side of the brain.



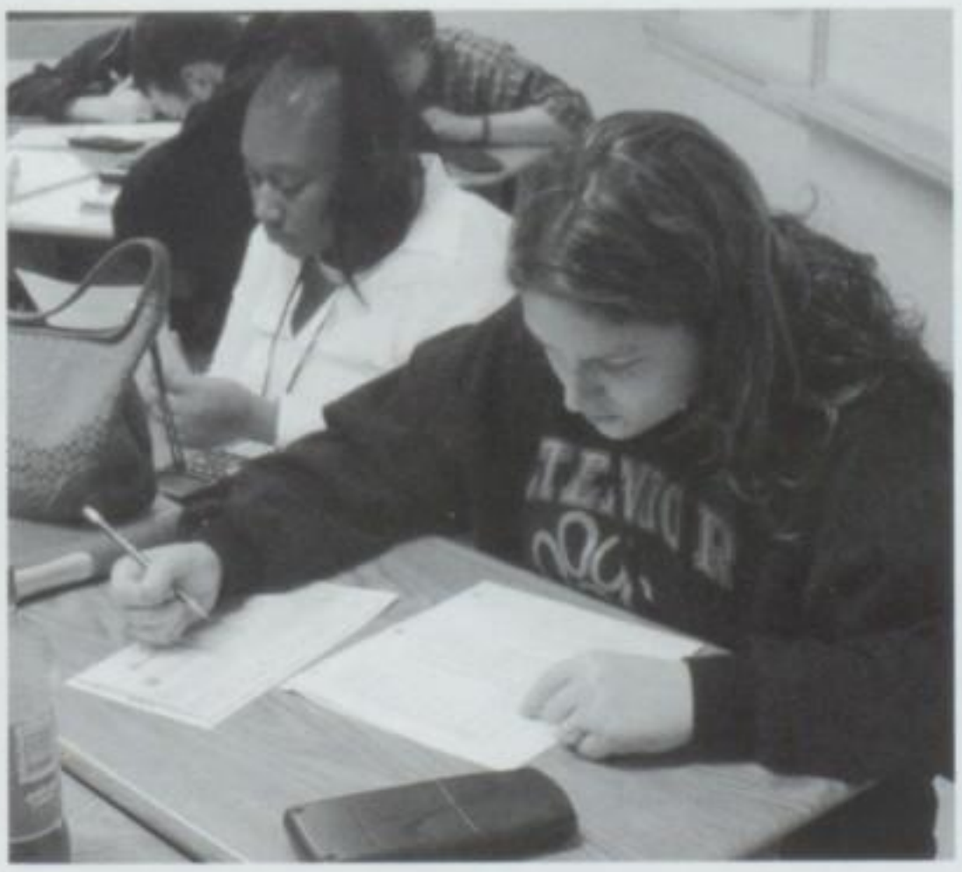
In Advanced Chemistry, students participate in a number of labs. Making crystals was one of the labs teachers planned for students.

"I like math and science classes because they come easy. It's fun!"
-Southixay Keopine, 9th grade

"Math and science come easy to me."
-Aimee Miller, 10th grade

"I like math and science because my teachers explain the work so I understand it and get good grades."
-Ciara Cooper, 11th grade

"I like the classes because they are really easy and not English."
-Zach Dingman, 12th grade



Working together, sophomore Dawn Intagliata and junior Anabel Gonzalez hurry to finish their assignment. In many classes students were allowed to help each other with their work.

Keeping up with Mr. Blake, junior Shayla Williams and senior Christy Dulle look over their notes before taking a test. Proper preparation assisted with positive performance.

Express Yourself

Communication Through Words

by Ashley Scott

Communication was defined by sophomore Katie Jennings as, "the way in which people discuss ideas, culture, and events."

Like her, many students communicated their ideas through their words and writing. With the support of teachers, students were taught to effectively communicate their thoughts through not only their speech but also their writing. As students learned the fundamentals of the English language, teachers sought to instill their pupils with an understanding that would later benefit them. Mr. Peterson said, "I want students to express themselves as much as they can in their writing because it gives them a voice."

"I want students to express themselves as much as they can in their writing because it gives them a voice." -Mr. Peterson

Aside from learning English, many students took advantage in learning another language. These included Spanish, French, and German.

Several students took a foreign language in hopes it would benefit them in the future, while others learned another language just to acquire more knowledge. Junior Dannielle Lee took Spanish to better prepare herself later in life: "In the career field I am going into, I need Spanish as another language to effectively complete my job. So taking it in high school is helping me for my future."

Others took the language so they could travel abroad. Senior Becky Coleman went to France the summer after she graduated and hoped her three years of French would allow her to speak the language fluently enough to communicate with others. She said it would help her, "because it'll help me when I go to France."

Both junior Maurice Miller and senior Marqus Johnson, on the other hand, took Spanish for the pleasure of learning about another culture. Maurice said, "Spanish is one of the greatest languages ever spoken because you can communicate with others in another language. It is really cool that I can express myself, but in another language, with others who speak that language as their primary one,"

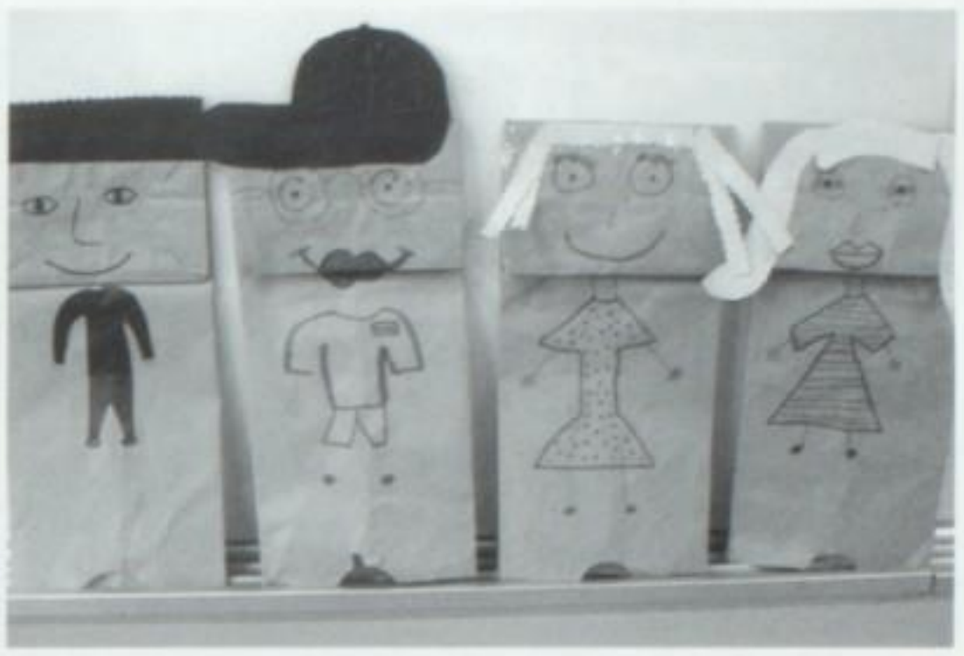
Marqus feels that "the language is so easy to learn because it goes hand in hand with English, and it is a beautiful thing to learn!"

Spanish students were not the only ones to praise their language, senior Nicole Walker commented, "A lot of people take German for fun because we're all really close. Doing Karneval and everything brings us together."

Knowing how to communicate with others was an important aspect of high school. Students took advantage of learning multiple languages to help themselves excel in the future. Learning to effectively communicate in English helped students to reinforce the skills they acquired when learning a new language.

Through reading various novels, the German class learns to fully grasp the German language. In German III, students read Dann Es War Friedrich, which taught them about discrimination and reemphasized the German dialect.

By making masks as a way to fully understand the story of Romeo and Juliet, freshman English classes discussed ways people use masks to hide their true identities. Most of the winners for the Romeo and Juliet masks were in Ms. Jeffrey's 2A Advanced English class.



Mrs. Mabrey-Lowry's Spanish IV class had to put on skits using their Spanish vocabulary. Andy Hedlund, Ba Huynh, and Kyle Pritchett put on a puppet show called Los Pescadores.

Preparing for their performances in Mr. Peterson's British Literature class, seniors Andy Hedlund, Meghann Thoma, and Molly Jennings dressed as different characters from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. Students were assigned a character, had to retell that character's specific tale, and dressed and acted like that character.

Dressed as The Wife of Bath, a character from Canterbury Tales, senior Meghann Thoma practices her story one more time before class starts. Her story was supposed to teach what women desire most.

"I am going for valedictorian, so I think it (Spanish) will be useful."
-Jessica Coleman, Spanish II

"It's hard to remember everything, and the reading part is hard, too."
-Jason Vong, ESL

"I really like Mr. Peterson's English class because he turns boring activities into fun activities."
-Keiasha Ferguson, English 11

"The desserts were the best part of the meal."
-Kennedy Moore, French IV

Practicing Practicality

Students learn techniques for the future

by Molly Jennings

"30 years from now, it won't matter what shoes you wore, how your hair looked, or the jeans you bought. What will matter is what you learned and how you used it." --Anonymous

Teachers had this poster in their classrooms to remind pupils that in the future, it would not matter what they looked like, but rather how they used what they learned. From babies to business, and from consumer science to sewing, students took a variety of classes to help them prepare for their future.

In 2003, students had the option to take a new class called Fashion History. As part of the class, students designed outfits for Barbie and made storyboards and commercials to market their product. Senior Laquita Tenner took the class to prepare herself for solving minor sewing problems.

Fashion history was not the only class that helped improve students sewing techniques. In Clothing and Fashion, students were given the chance to make their own clothes. Senior Linda Gunter opted to make pajama pants out of Care Bear material. She commented, "It's a fun class to take because we don't have to work out of a book all the time."

Seniors Nichole Basemore and Melissa Berns took Ms. Nagy's Housing and Home Furnishing class their senior year. The class taught students about the color wheel and home layouts. Both Nichole and Melissa hoped to use the skills they learned to decorate their future homes. Nichole explained, "I want my house to have seven bedrooms and be two to three stories with a built-in year-round school house."

To help prepare students for their future endeavors, Ms. Nagy had students make their floor plans. Melissa said, "When I grow up and get my own house, I can decorate it nicely." Furthermore, Melissa felt the class was "more hands-on."

Child Development was another popular and useful class. In this class, students viewed videos about child birth, how to prepare for a baby, and child-care. The movie taught useful tips such as giving a baby-toddler massages, which will heighten their IQ.

Moreover, sophomore Corey Riehl had the opportunity to take home the electronic baby and wear the pregnancy vest. Corey wore the thirty-pound vest for 20 minutes. This taught Corey that "pregnant women have a much harder time than I thought; all that weight makes for a hard time." Corey considered the class beneficial and fun because, "we watched movies that were educational and the class was not as strict as other classes."

"I know more about taking care of a baby. It's not just feeding and changing diapers."

-Corey Riehl, 10th grade

Another class that taught students lifelong skills were computer and business classes. These classes taught basic computer skills and jargon. In Computer Applications I, freshman Angie Digar learned to type and write letters and memos. Angie and her classmates were required to use black box-like cardboard shelves preventing the typist from seeing where the keys are. Computer teacher Ms. Jordan explained, "The purpose of the blinders is when you sit down at the keyboard, students' fingers will go to the home row and they will be able to go from there. . .to let their fingers do the walking."

Angie enjoyed the class, but she gave the advice, "Don't get far behind because it takes a lot to catch up, and it gets confusing."

Junior Scott McClanahan was in both Computer Applications III and Business Law. In Computer Applications III, Scott learned to make tables on Microsoft Word. In Business Law, he ascertained information about entering and making contracts.

Accounting was another business class offered to students. This taught students to make charts of accounts, analyze transactions into debit and credit parts, and journalize transactions. The classes also taught students to write receipts. Junior Jerami Moody enjoyed Accounting I because "it allowed me to work on computers, and if computer programming analysis falls through, then I will have something to fall back on."

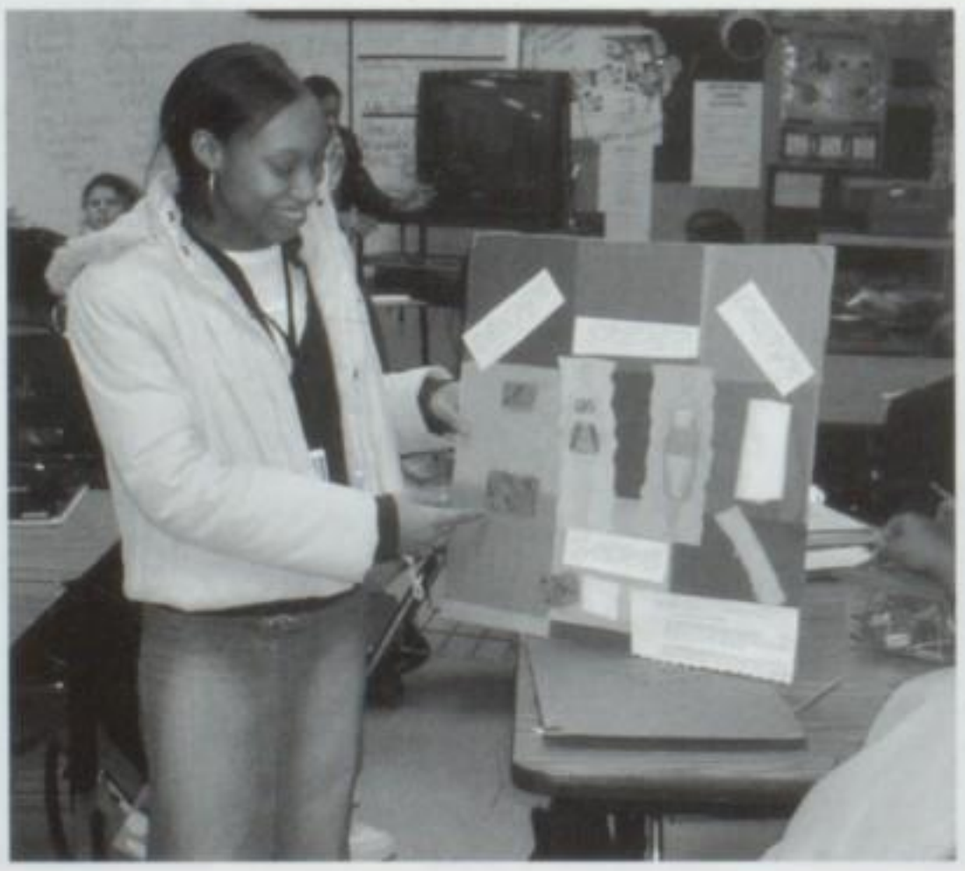
Intro to Business and Nutrition and Wellness were amongst Blake Lewis' classes his sophomore year. While in Intro to Business, Blake and his classmates were able to gain knowledge about financing money and making products, as well as learning where many products come from. To help students learn more about businesses, Mr. Spurgeon showed students videos about starting a business. He hopes to "prepare students to be well rounded American citizens so that they are able to make intelligent decisions about things that influence their lives."

Blake especially enjoyed the class because it taught him how to manage money. He said, "I want to one day own a business," making Intro to Business very beneficial.

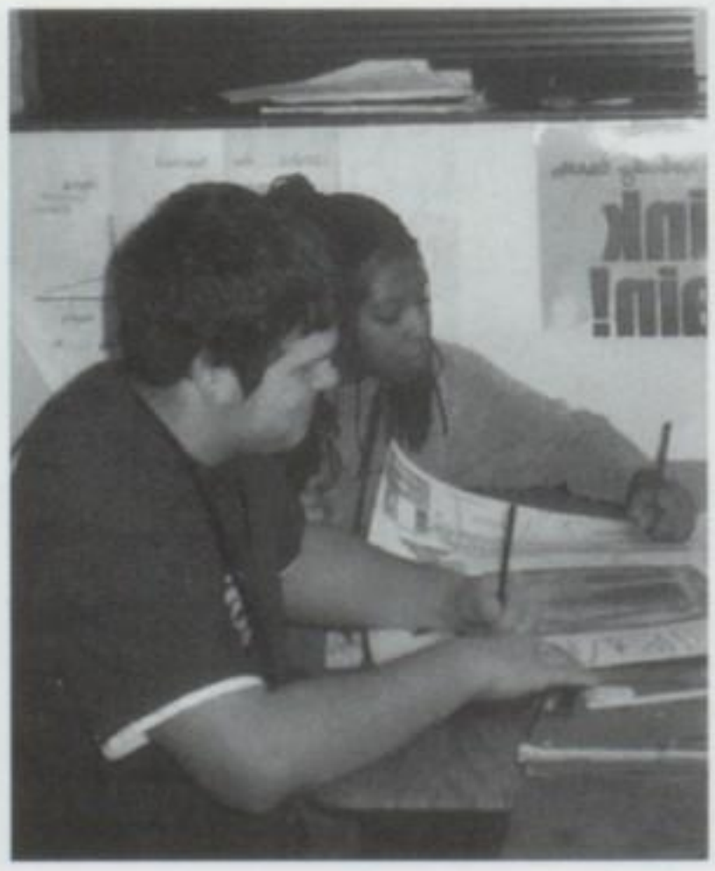
In Nutrition and Wellness, students were taught healthy diet tips and how to cook and eat healthy. Blake found the information useful because it taught him, "how to eat healthy and stay healthy."

While hairstyles and clothing fads might be something to be embarrassed about in the future, the skills students learned in high school will not.

In Fashion History class presenting a clothing design, Debra Dancy, 12th grade, explores the world of original dress. Projects in fashion history included making prehistoric clothing for Barbie dolls.



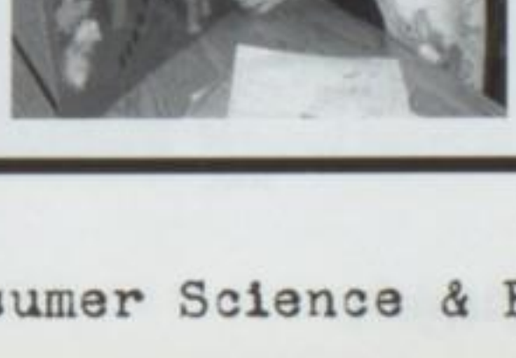
With heads together, juniors Tiffany Stokes and John Huff work on a presentation for their introduction to usiness class. This presentation covered stages of the business cycle.



Working to develop a visual aid poster, juniors Latanya Elliott, Derek McDonald, and Brooke Stone cooperate to complete their class assignment.

"I like to cook for my family, and I helped cook our Christmas dinner."
-Randy Smith,
12th grade

"I plan on owning my own cosmetology business after college; this class gave me a lot of insight on business."
-Phi Trinh,
9th grade



"I like to cook spaghetti. I even have my own special recipe."
-Ethan Bedichek,
10th grade

"I want to go into designing clothes for small people after high school."
-Megan Ryan,
9th grade

Creating fun for the children's play time, junior Katie Weinhold helps the children with building blocks. Using the building blocks helped the children develop their motor skills.

Producing an activity to help children learn about vegetables, senior Jennifer Abrams passes flash cards. Advanced Child Development gave students a chance to work with children in a positive educational setting.

Mapping Physicality

Physical Education and Social Studies make traveling easier

by Kristen Rehagen

When people walked through the halls, they could not help but notice the different cultures that were brought together. People from many different backgrounds made up the student body. As this wide variety of students interacted, they got to know each other, whether it was in the classroom or on the court. For example, in social studies class, students learned about other cultures. The class taught students about the lives of people around the world and how others' lives differed from the lives of Americans. In Geography, students studied cultures from Latin America and many other regions of the world. "We learn about culture, customs, and economics; the different backgrounds are interesting," said freshman Wendell Clay.

Sophomore social studies classes focused on different countries and their historical past. "We are studying different backgrounds and regions of the world. It's interesting to study other ways of living," explained sophomore Jessica Daniel.

Aside from learning about other cultures in a classroom, another way some students learned was through first hand experience. "I lived in Africa for most of my childhood, and many things are different here. The fashion, customs, and housing are all very different. People here have a different fashion taste. All the people here act differently, too," said freshman Adjo Honsou.

Freshman Reham Jaber agreed that some things were quite different in America. "When I lived in Jordan, there were only all girl or all boy schools; we were never taught together."

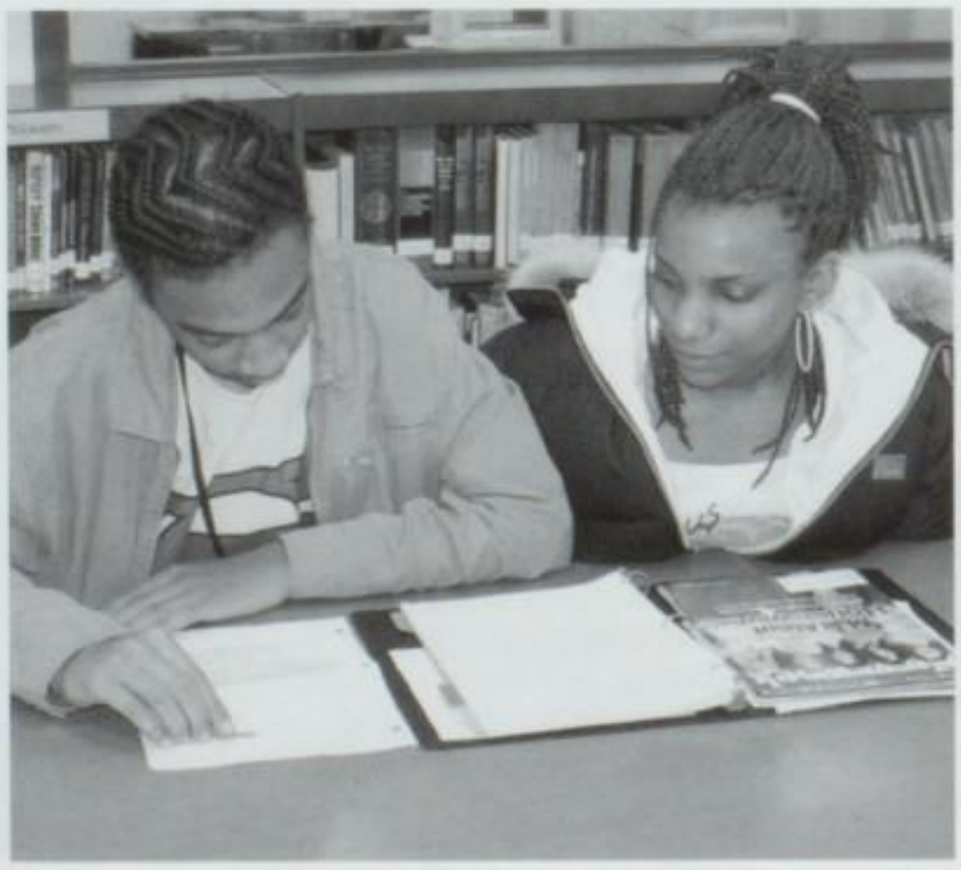
Some cultural differences, such as the school system, were easier for people from other countries to adapt to, but some were more shocking. "In Russia, everyone is really poor. The only city that wasn't very poor was Moscow. A lot of the people in Russia don't have jobs; that's why everyone was poor. The cars are the same but there are not real roads, they are more like trails. Our houses were made with cement walls and weren't as fancy as the houses here," said Olia Bronitsky.

> "Sports help close the cultural gaps experienced every day."
>
> -Mr. Cochran, Spanish Teacher

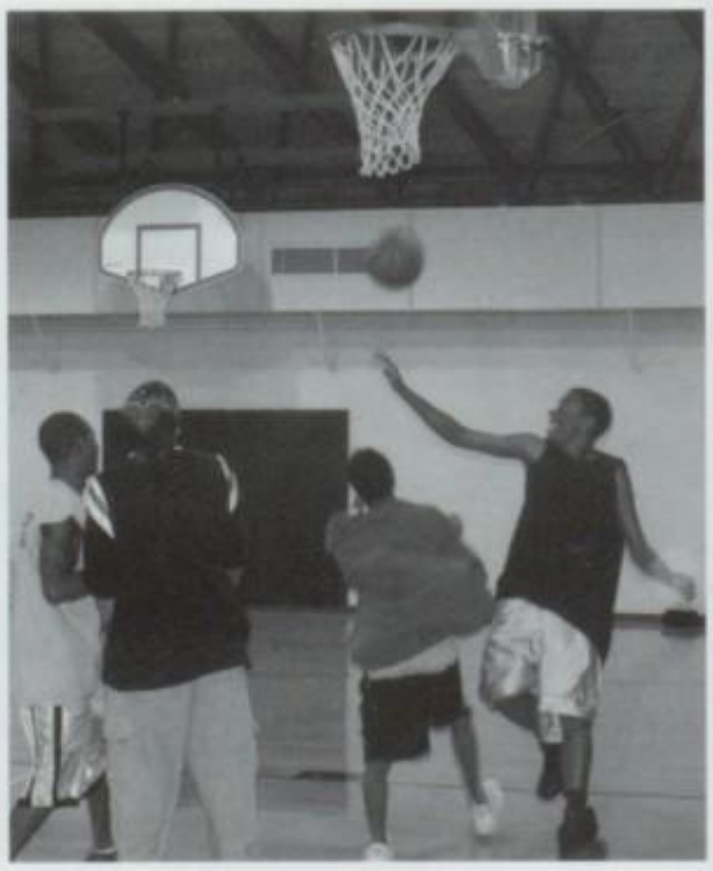
Another way students got to bond was through different activities, such as sports played in gym class. "Sports tie America to different parts of the world through a shared interest. If students went to another region of the world, they would have something in common with the native people there, " said physcial education teacher, Mr. Vannoy.

One sport in particular came to mind when thinking of sharing a common bond: soccer. "Sports help close the cultural gaps experienced everyday. Soccer, especially, because that game is played around the world, and many cultures share in it," Spanish teacher, Mr. Cochran, said.

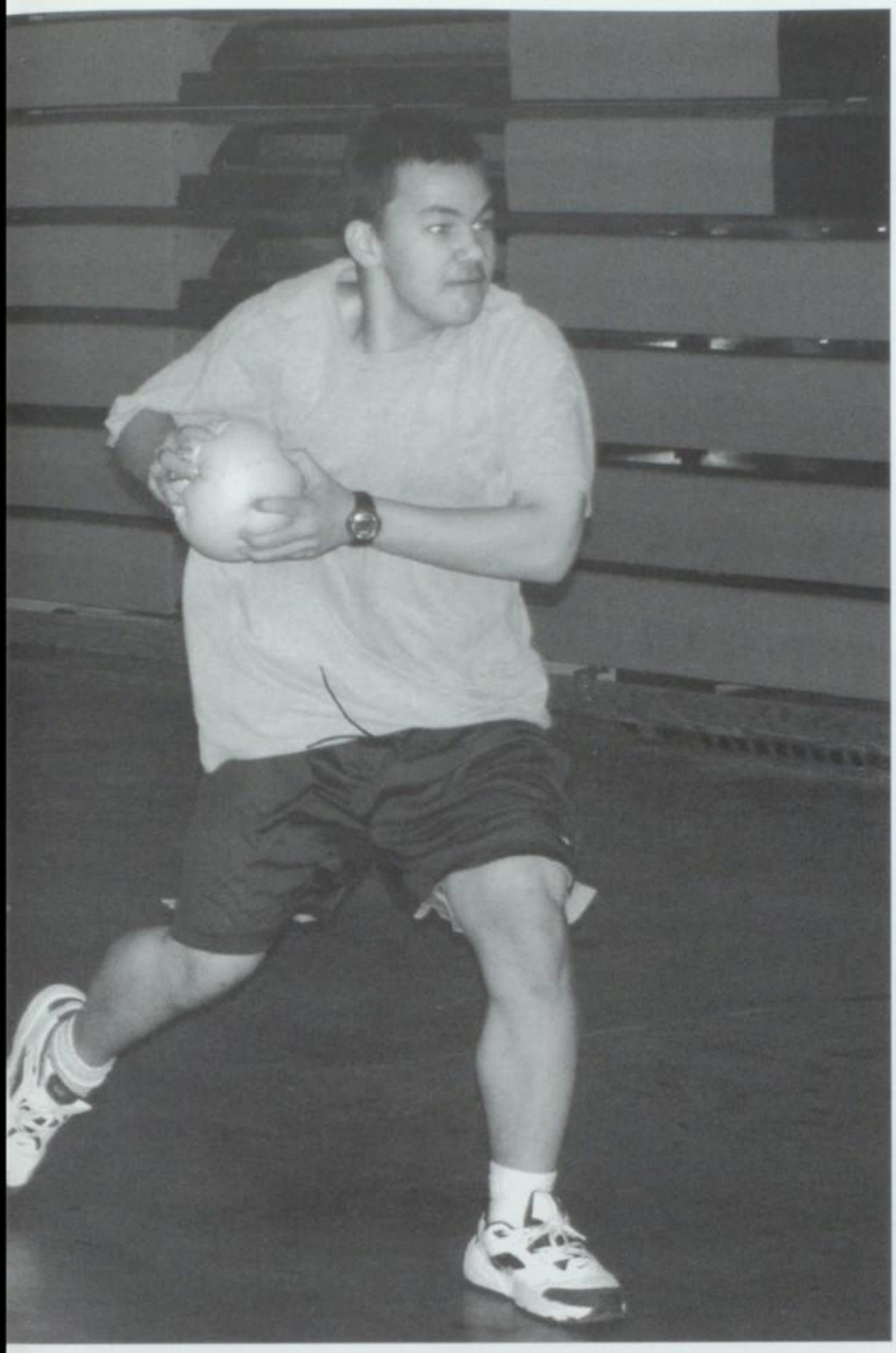
Whether it was through sports or studying, students shared and learned about different cultures. Even through something as simple as sports, students from all over the world could bond. When people set aside differences and learned more about each other, it made everyone a little closer.



Working on a project for Current Issues, junior Michael McDuffie and senior Eva Moody review their notes.



The purpose of physical education is to teach students how to play a number of sports and the rules that those sports involve. After listening to the day's lesson, the students were allowed to choose what activity to participate in, so some students decided to brush up on their basketball skills.



While working in the library, senior Tim Davis and junior Joey Parres review for their social studies exam. Students were required to complete a review before taking the test.

During an intense game of dodgeball, sophomore James Luu attempts to launch the ball at his opponent. Although his ball was caught, his team won the game and advanced to the next round.

In Basic Weight Training, senior Himanshu Patel does curls to strengthen his biceps. The class helped students establish a healthy workout routine.

If you could be like a sports star from history, who would you be?

"Jim Craig, because he won the 1980 Olympics."
-Joey Fincher, 10th grade

"I would be like Shaquille O'Neal because he's good!"
-Brittany Spann, 12th grade

"Henry Thierre, because he's an awesome soccer player!"
-Bulmaro Medina-Ramos, 9th grade

"Mia Hamm, because she's a great female soccer player!"
-Maria Garcia, 11th grade

Workin' for a Living

Students volunteer while learning new skills

by Sara Lewis

Each student contributes to make school environments unique. Similarly, in businesses, each worker adds an element that makes the store run smoothly. Each employee works hard to get the job done. Some of these jobs were done by students involved with the Community Based Instructional Program, or CBI. These students involved with CBI left school during their 2B class and returned around two in the afternoon. Not only did these students get a break from school, but they also had the opportunity to rack up service hours by performing their duties voluntarily. Perhaps more importantly, however, was the acquisition of work skills that the students could use later in life.

Shawn Messerly, a senior, was a part of the CBI program for four years. Shawn worked at the Marriott Hotel. During his shift, he performed tasks such as straightening up and making beds. Not limited to only daytime hours, students also applied for paying jobs after school hours. "If we apply, we can be paid for the time that we work during the day," added Shawn. Along with being compensated for the time that they worked during the school day, CBI members were also given the option of picking up shifts after school.

Linda Gunter, also a senior, worked alongside Shawn at the Marriott. Linda worked with the linens by making beds and helping clean the rooms. Sometimes humor broke through in the work environment, much like during the school day. "One time a lady hit me with a pillow!" exclaimed Linda. Lighthearted experiences such as these were a nice reminder of how all work was not necessarily boring but could be fun, as well.

"One time a lady hit me with a pillow!"

-Linda Gunter, 12th grade

Not everyone involved in the program worked at hotels. Jose Negrete and Michelle Meadows, both juniors, worked at K-Mart during their time away from school. Their duties included helping associates by hanging up clothes and stocking shelves. Sometimes the CBI students worked behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly. "I do prep work, like back-stocking in the back," Michelle interjected. While the benefits for their duties were not monetary, the students were rewarded in other ways. Jose's favorite part was, "seeing new people," while he worked at K-Mart.

CBI had a long history that started before any of the current members were at Ritenour. Ms. O'Keefe, a former Ritenour teacher, got the program rolling several years ago to utilize her student's abilities. CBI allowed students to get work experience and be exposed to the community while still in a supervised, school-like setting. CBI was under the supervision of Mrs. Maclin, who also shuttled the students back and forth from their jobs and school during the day.

Their main focus was to give students the opportunity to spend some of their school day learning skills other than English and science, and to give them the opportunity to learn about the components of a job. By getting a taste of the work experience, students learned how they could support themselves financially after high school.

These CBI students expanded their horizons beyond the high school experience. Just as they kept the school going with their hard work and personalities, they helped to maintain local businesses, as well.

Replacing paper towels, junior Jose Negrete stocks most of the items on the K-Mart shelves. Jose worked to keep shelves full so customers could find what they needed.

Stacking men's jeans in straight rows, junior Michelle Meadows works to complete the tasks before moving to her next assignments. Her response to working in the men's department was, "I do what I can."

Stocking racks before stacking them on the floor of K-Mart, Montrel Guest works hard to prepare shorts for display and sales.

Packing bags, loading carts, and helping elderly gentlemen are tasks that sophomore Jason Dalton performs every second hour B-day. Dalton also performed many other tasks throughout the store.

Creating a jewelry display is "easy" stated freshman Sophia Curry. She pieced together an entire display, along with many other displays in the accessory section.

"[I learned] how to earn money and how to deal with it. It's a good way to make a start for adult life."
-Eric Howard,
10th grade

"I learned how to be on time."
-William Granderson,
11th grade

"I learned that school is easier because I don't have to clean."
-Linda Gunter,
12th grade

"I learned how hard a job can be."
-Amber Zentegam,
10th grade

Heading Off To Work

How Much Made? How Much Saved? How Much Spent?

by Tonia O'Neal

Show me the money! COE was a work program designed to help students gain work experience and get a little cash for themselves. From Mr. Goodcents to Lou Fusz Automotive Network, seniors found jobs. COE participants told where they worked, explained why they worked, and showed how much of their average income went to savings and how much of their money was actually spent on pure enjoyment.

Senior Chad Gornicz said, "I work at Dairy Queen, and I hate it because I put up with a lot." Teenagers typically got jobs at fast food places, but then senior Adam Ullrich stated, "I work at Lou Fusz Automotive Network. It is a lot better then fast food places but in general there are better jobs." So what was their meaning in getting a job?

One possible purpose for a job was to get money. However, many students applied to a job for the experience. Senior Joni Geil stated, "My purpose for working at Save-a-Lot is to have my own money, but it is also a good way for me to gain practice in the working world." To gain knowledge was a good motive for a job and could be helpful in the future, however not all COE students had a job for the experience.

Some students were in it simply for the hard cash. Senior Reggie Banks commented, "My purpose in working at Mr. Goodcents is to, of course, get money. I have my own car and have to pay for it." Getting a head start on finances was not a bad idea for students, considering that they have expenses of their own, including insurance and gas money. Adam Ullrich explained, "On a monthly basis, fifty dollars goes to my cell phone, one hundred sixty five goes toward insurance, sixty goes to gas, twenty is for food, and about another sixty goes to whatever I do on the weekends." However, not all of their money was blown on bills.

With all the money that was spent by COE students, it helped to know what all it was spent on. Some spent it on a car, others bills, but most spent it on pure entertainment. Reggie Banks comments, "I spend a lot on entertainment. Movie tickets are about six dollars and the food at the movies cost about twenty." Reggie was not the only one who spent his money on entertainment. Chad Gornicz said, "I spent about twenty-five to fifty dollars a week on entertainment." Not all workers found that their money was hard to hold onto; some were even able to save a little of their pay check.

> "My purpose in working... is to, of course, get money."
>
> -Reggie Banks, 12th grade

So just how much money did COE students make and how much of what was made went toward savings? Senior Reggie Banks answered the question, "I made about a hundred dollars a week, five or ten of that actually went toward a savings, while fifty to sixty went toward spending." The prices are not as high for all students. Not all students found that money burned holes in their pockets. Joni Geil commented, "Only about fifteen a week is spent on entertainment, while more than half goes toward savings." COE students spent their money on entertainment, while others managed to save it.

A lot of the money made was spent; however, COE students had a good time and did manage to save a little bit of their cash. Some even walked away with a little bit more knowledge and experience under their belt. Money makes the world go round, and COE students added to the circle.

A group of customers order their meals while Willie Pruitt, a senior, makes cheese enchiladas. Willie's experience in the work world gave him a leg up on his fellow classmates.

Making her guest feel at home, Tiffany Wittig holds the door open. Restaurant work was a popular selection with students.

Taking a break from work Kevin Anderson chats with his manager. Sorting chicken parts to prepare for the dinner rush, Kevin learned the importance of anticipating customers' needs.

"Yes, my job is worth it, because it helps me pay for my car."
– Joni Geil,
12th grade

"I like to work so that I can make money for college and save up for personal items."
- Jenna Wilson,
12th grade

"Yes, because I like to go and hang out with my friends at concerts."
– Patrick Wilson,
12th grade

"It pays for my car insurance and my gas so I can go places; therefore, I like my job."
– Wayne Haggard,
12th grade

Making Blizzards is Chad Gornicz's speciality, and here, he shows off his craft. Dairy Queen, due to its central location, drew a number of applications from our students.

Senior Reggie Banks catches up on his sweeping when business dies down. Work continued even when the business was closed.

Inside Jobs

CBI cleans up nicely

by Rachel Valdez

It is Wednesday morning. Most students are sitting in first hour listening to the droning on of teachers, some still in a half-sleep daze. At the same time, a few, a very select few, are working all over the school, trying to make it a cleaner and more organized place. The students involved in Community Based Instruction, or CBI, were constantly hard at work with their daily tasks. These included aiding custodians in maintaining cleanliness among the halls, delivering mail to various places, collecting all of the recycling bins from classrooms, and even working in the cafeteria.

Along with aiding others' daily lives, the students involved in CBI were also helping themselves. The skills they mastered provided them with a hands-on approach to job training. These skills were meant to help them in their working lives. Each of the students had a specific thing they wanted to achieve. Ranging from being a veterinarian to being a poet to being a waitress, their career aspirations were diverse. Each student said that their jobs at the school helped them attain some of the career goals they had. Take, for instance, Chartyle Peterson, whose goal was to be a waitress. She said, "You have to know how to cook and clean to be a waitress." Also, Jessica Malcom dreamt of being a veterinarian when she got older. She said that CBI has helped her use the computer better and more efficiently. Jessica said that these skills would "help me look up names of clients on the computer."

Where exactly were these students gaining these skills? The skills were a result of all of the hard work they put in working all over the school. CBI teacher, Mrs. Maclin, said this work helped students "improve job skills, community participation, follow directions, and get along with others." The CBI students exhibited all of these skills, and more.

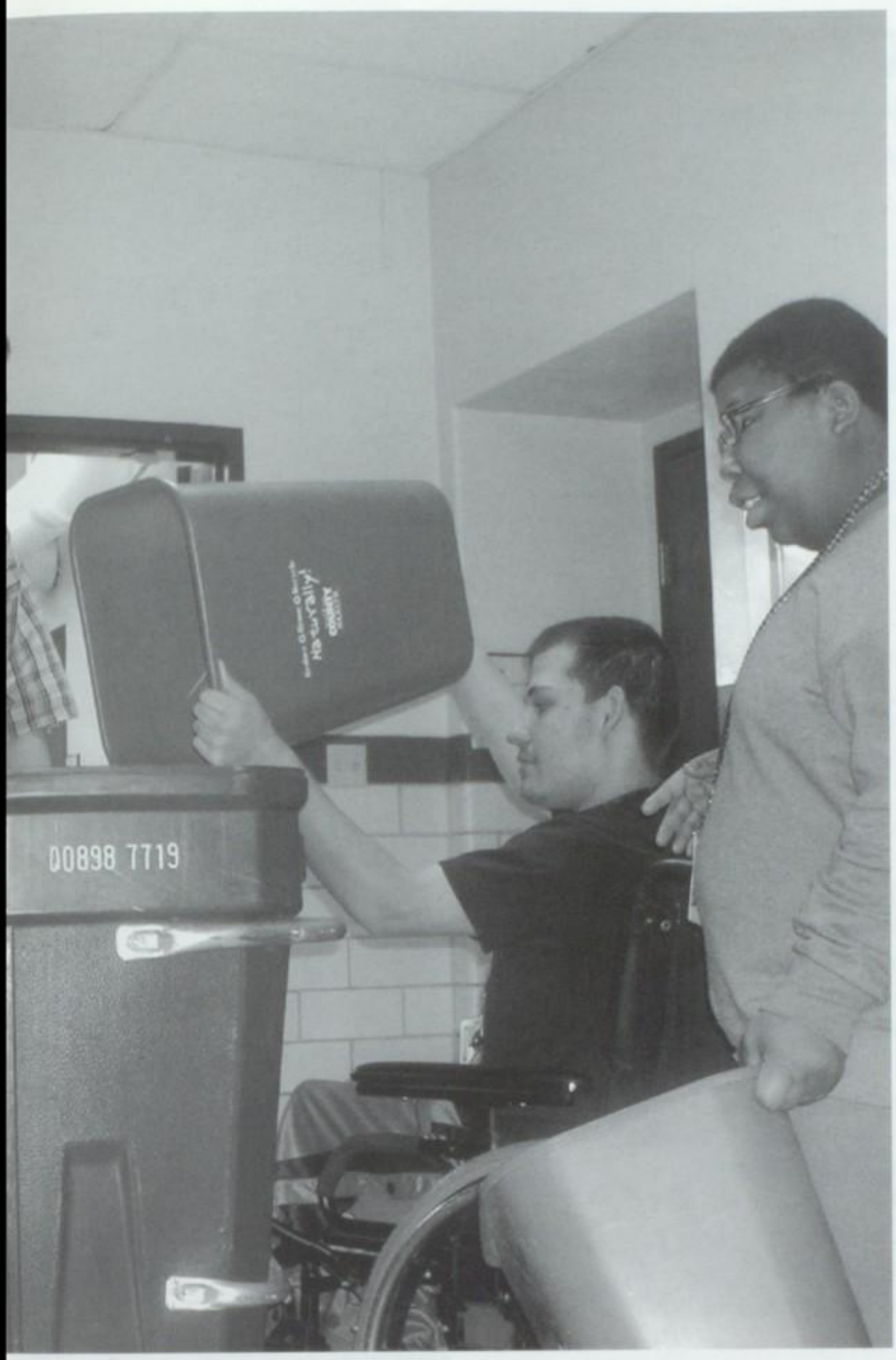
> "...improve job skills, community participation, follow directions, and get along with others."
>
> -Mrs. Maclin

Though the program improved many students' everyday working skills immensely, students still expressed more dreams for the future. Corey Schaffer was hoping to improve her "driving skills, and learn how to read directions better," in the next year. Jaques Poynter, who worked at Shop-n-Save flattening boxes and doing other handy work, wanted to learn how to stock shelves and take inventory of merchandise better. Also, Joshua Gibson was really interested in landscaping, like his father, and wanted to learn and perfect these skills. These aspirations were part of the students' goals for their school career, as they continued to participate in Community Based Instruction.

In only a single year, Community Based Instruction proved to be one of the most important resources in keeping our school clean and running smoothly. The hard work these students put in on the student body's behalf was insurmountable. With all of the blood, sweat, and tears, CBI put in, one would think they were ready to throw in the towel and be done with the program. That was simply not the case. In fact, the students claimed they were looking forward to retaining their posts the next year and to help the school once more.

The students of CBI make the lanyards and necklaces that they sold throughout the year. Beads and other various crafts supplies were used to make their products as appealing as possible.

Recycling is one of the many jobs CBI performs throughout the school year. Jacques Poynter took pride in his work keeping the school's environment clean.



Teamwork makes the process of beading an easier task. Josh Gibson and Jason Dalton were not only friends but co-workers in CBI.

Recycling not only helps the appearance of the school, but also contributes to the students' interaction with each other. Jason Dalton, Josh Gibson, and Chartyle Peterson, worked together to lessen the job of lifting the heavy containers. These skills not only helped the students in class, but in life.

Decorating lanyards with festive beads for their upcoming sale, Chartyle Peterson admires her handiwork. Making these necklaces took both patience and a talent for color coordinating.

What skills have you learned in CBI?

"Cooking, typing, math, and telling time."
-Corey Schaffer, CBI

"Teamwork and how to follow rules."
-Jason Dalton, CBI

"How to use the computer more [effeciently]."
-Jessica Malcom, CBI

"Self-confidence, social skills, what is excepted at a job."
-Ms. Hill, CBI

Scenes of Violence

Rage helps athletes achieve victory

by Sara Lewis

A boy's determined face contorts in pain as he successfully pins his opponent. A swimmer's chest heaves in and out, supplying air to his exhausted lungs after he beats his record in the 100 M Butterfly. Wincing in agony, a softball player limps off the diamond after sliding to secure her team's victory. Scenes of violence all demonstrated Ritenour student's willingness to sacrifice physical comfort for the rapture of victory.

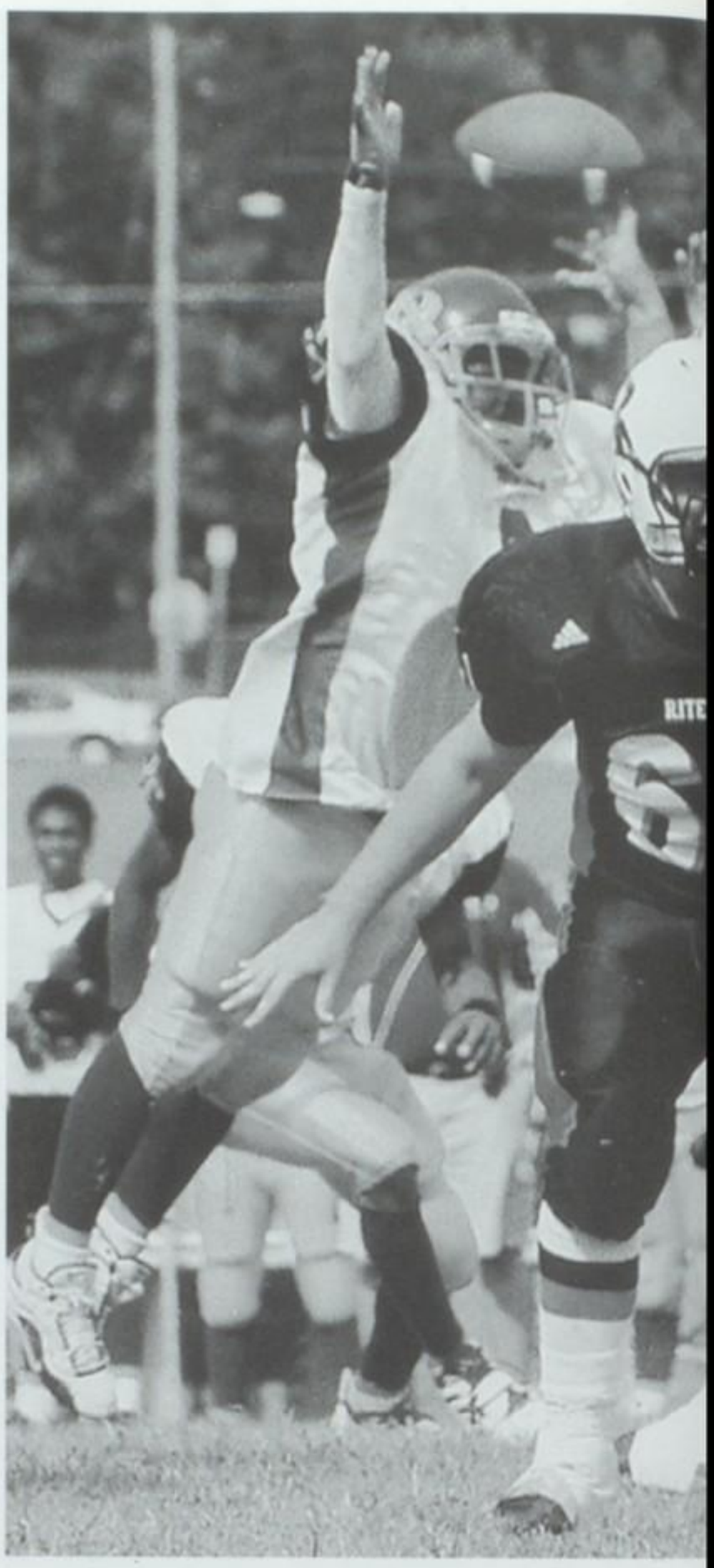
Violence became expected in contact sports. Soccer players slide tackle, hockey players check, and baseball catchers relentlessly guard home plate. While violence could be considered negative, channeling positively it ensured teams another win.

Discomfort after a game was common when one pushed the body to its limit. "You have to push yourself if you want to earn that win," commented Amanda Reppy, a senior and member of the girls' swim team, adding, "sometimes you just have to work your body harder than you should." Working out and playing with violent intensity caused bodies to ache for hours afterward, but it proved the zeal that students had for their sports.

Aggressive passion gave players an extra edge to defeat a fierce rival, make an all-conference team, and beat a personal record. "When you get angry, you get more strength!" exclaimed Chris Ellis, who employed his aggression and passion to aid him in knocking opposing football players out of his way. "To be strong, you have to play with a lot of emotion; you have to play with all of your heart," Chris concluded. Struggling to get everything they could out of their bodies and emotions, athletes worked hard to achieve victory.

When game time rolled around, emotions flared and inner violence became heated. The desire to win stoked an internal fire, which drove the players to win no matter what the cost. "Sometimes I slide into second base in order to break up a double play. You have to use your body to win, even if it hurts," explained JV softball player Kassondra Jones.

Intense and aggressive scenes were sometimes displayed on the playing fields, arenas, and courts where students played. However, these emotions were usually used positively and strengthened the need to succeed.



The Varsity cheerleaders encourage the boys' soccer team to score another goal. Team spirit was important for any athletic team competition.

Waiting in anticipation, senior Aimee Dyer prepares for her opponent's serve. Being ready was necessary while playing in a doubles match.

After the opposing team knocked the ball out of bounds, freshman Phillip Hedlund retrieved it after the throw in. With a long stride, Phillip dribbled down the field and made a goal kick to a team member to continue the game.

"I like being part of a team, winning is always good, and the chicks."
-Kyle Merisotes,
Boys' swimming

"I like to have fun and win the competitions, but I couldn't have done it without my coaches and the other girls on the squad."
-Amber Taber,
Rhythmettes

"I feel like when we do win we prove everybody wrong."
-Ferriss Nelson,
Boys' basketball

Practicing can help players hone in on skills during important plays. Senior Ryan Sweeney focused to achieve the play in the Homecoming game against Riverview.

When he is not teaching computer applications, Mr. Hill helps out with the wrestling team. In practice, Coach Hill showed the freshmen how to throw down from a standing position.

Dunking the ball, junior Kevin Brown warms up before the game. Kevin scored a total average of eleven points per game and made sixty-three percent of his free throws.

Following through on her swing, freshman Danielle Salmieri hits a single to third base. Danielle started as the catcher for the varsity softball team.

Working As A Team

Girls' Softball Comes Together

by Ashley Scott

The looks of the freshly cleaned field.... The sounds of the audience coming to cheer on the Huskies.... The smells of the concession stand hot dogs wafting out over the field. The girls' softball teams practiced all summer long for that moment. It was time for their first game. With game faces on, they took the field for the first time of the year.

At all their practices throughout the summer, the girls focused on their hitting, fielding, and mechanics. Although the practices seemed long, a number of the girls enjoyed it. "My favorite part of practices," states junior Rosie Bond, "would have to be fielding because it made me better at it." Practices consisted of intricate techniques such as running perimeters. "That," Rosie said, "would always make me hurt."

To have an effective team, players must work together as one. During the summer, all the girls went to a softball camp held at our own softball field. Here, the upperclassmen taught all the new girls techniques. The camp was a week long. Going out to dinner together was something the teams did to bond.

A number of the girls on the teams have practiced the game of softball their whole lives, which is why they feel they have improved. Senior Casey Gammon said she has been playing "ever since I was four years old, and then I played T-Ball."

For sisters Carissa and Cortnei Mudge, it runs in the family. Carissa said, "My mom put me into T-Ball, then I went higher and higher and became select."

Cortnei mentioned, "I love to go out there and just have fun!"

Sophomore Danielle Dillingham said about the sport, "I love the game and I love getting dirty."

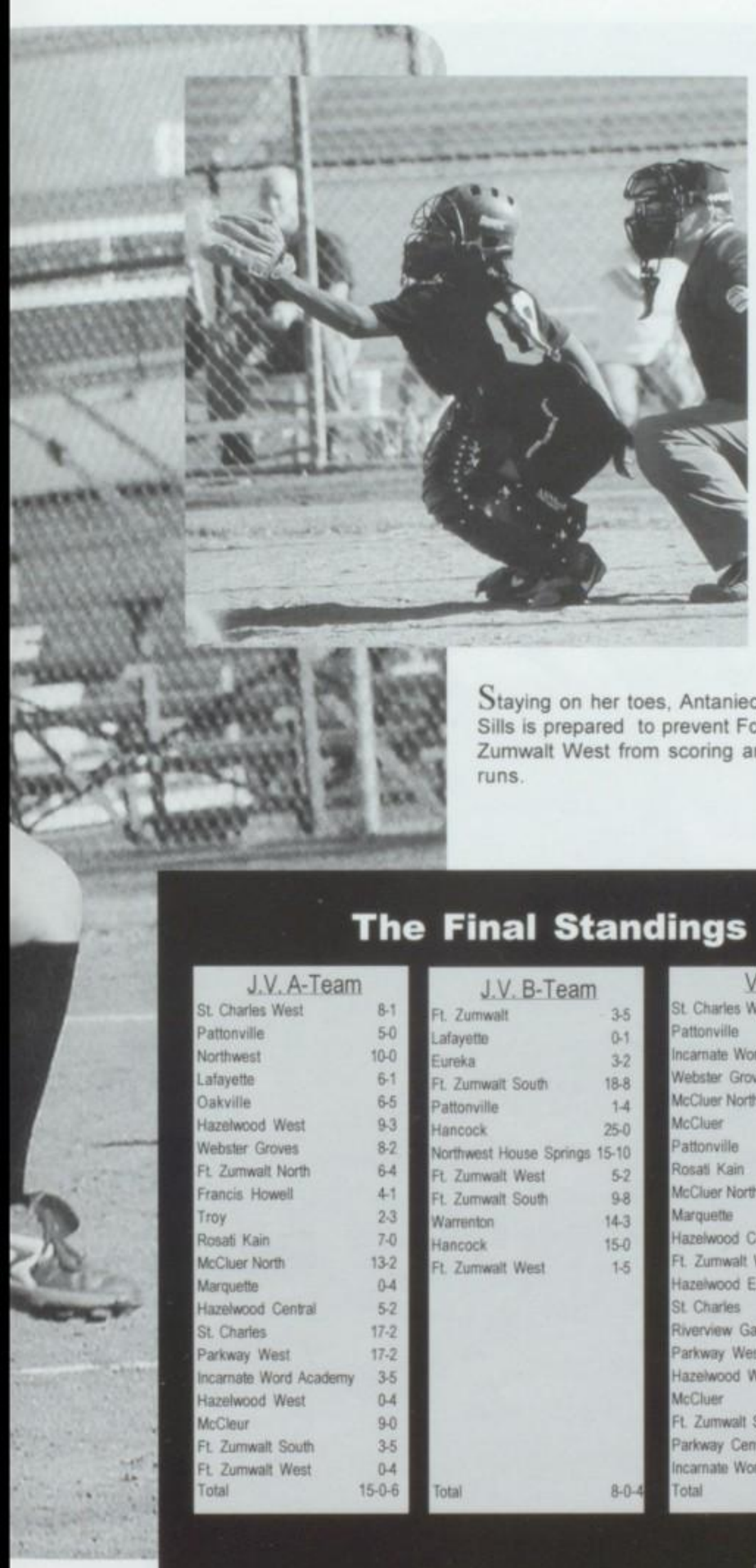
Three strikes and you're out... Alison Gammon strikes out a Webster Groves batter ending the inning.

What was your most violent action on the field?

"Someone threw the ball at me and it bounced out of my glove and busted my lip." --Lea Wood, 9th grade

"My weirdest injury was when the pitcher and I collided, no one called the ball so we hit each other. I got the wind knocked out of me." --Antaniece Sills, 9th grade

"Some girl from another team tried to attack me with a bat and she got thrown out of the game." --Danielle Salmieri, 10th grade



A step ahead the rest, Carissa Mudge throws a strike against a St. Charles West batter.

Staying on her toes, Antaniece Sills is prepared to prevent Fort Zumwalt West from scoring any runs.

The Final Standings

J.V. A-Team	
St. Charles West	8-1
Pattonville	5-0
Northwest	10-0
Lafayette	6-1
Oakville	6-5
Hazelwood West	9-3
Webster Groves	8-2
Ft. Zumwalt North	6-4
Francis Howell	4-1
Troy	2-3
Rosati Kain	7-0
McCluer North	13-2
Marquette	0-4
Hazelwood Central	5-2
St. Charles	17-2
Parkway West	17-2
Incarnate Word Academy	3-5
Hazelwood West	0-4
McCleur	9-0
Ft. Zumwalt South	3-5
Ft. Zumwalt West	0-4
Total	15-0-6

J.V. B-Team	
Ft. Zumwalt	3-5
Lafayette	0-1
Eureka	3-2
Ft. Zumwalt South	18-8
Pattonville	1-4
Hancock	25-0
Northwest House Springs	15-10
Ft. Zumwalt West	5-2
Ft. Zumwalt South	9-8
Warrenton	14-3
Hancock	15-0
Ft. Zumwalt West	1-5
Total	8-0-4

Varsity	
St. Charles West	3-2
Pattonville	2-0
Incarnate Word Academy	2-3
Webster Groves	4-5
McCluer North	3-0
McCluer	6-8
Pattonville	3-0
Rosati Kain	10-0
McCluer North	9-1
Marquette	6-7
Hazelwood Central	7-0
Ft. Zumwalt West	5-0
Hazelwood East	23-0
St. Charles	1-0
Riverview Gardens	15-0
Parkway West	16-1
Hazelwood West	2-0
McCluer	7-1
Ft. Zumwalt South	1-2
Parkway Central	5-3
Incarnate Word Academy	1-2
Total	15-0-6

JV A. *Front Row:* Danielle Dillingham, Jordan Brennan, Katie Sweet,Jade Mayhal. *Second Row:* Kassie Pratt. *Back Row:* Kayla Wheeler, Beth Duffin, Alison Gammon, Kelsey Pritchett, Kassondra Jones.

JV B. *Front Row:* Antaniece Sills, Lea Woods. *Second Row:* Chelsea Hodapp, Brandy Hiltibidal, Meggan Hunott, Suzie Baker, Meagan Swyres. *Back Row:* Jessica Bonnell, Amber Nesello, Coach Harper, Rachel Valdez, Angel Holmes.

Varsity. *Front Row:* Micah Little, Casey Gammon, Mandi Little. *Second Row:* Christina Fout, Danielle Salmieri, Courtney Schofield. *Back Row:* Coach Reynolds, Rosie Bond, Jenna Robey, Ashley Stock, Jackie Greco, Kelly Durnin, Coach Moorman.

Time For A Change

There Is No "Fast Food" In Team

by Josh Wuest

Low-carb yogurt. Fat-free Pringles. "No sugar" added fudge bar at Dairy Queen. Diets were an ongoing craze. From the universal Atkins diet, to the feared Tofu diet, the health rampage even affected Ritenour's own football players to improve their game or health status.

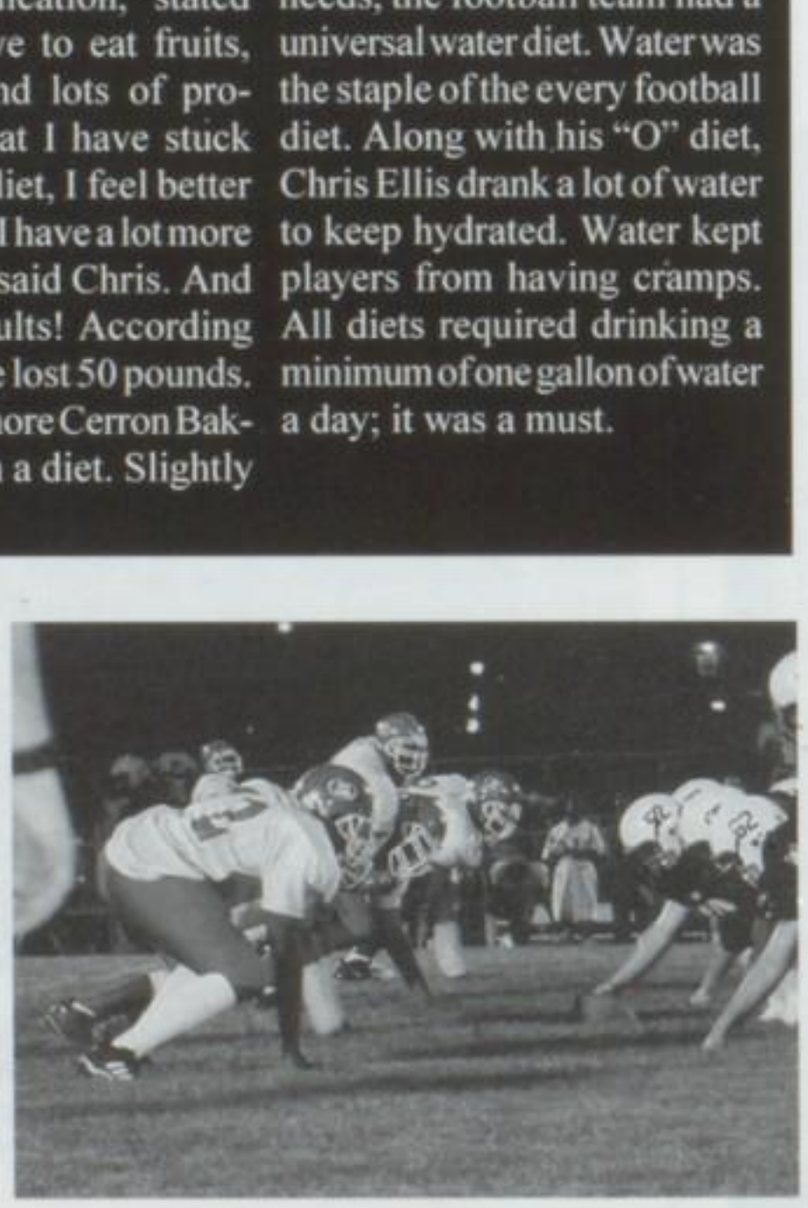
Part of football season entailed players getting in shape. For many, simple exercising and toning did the job, but for others it took a little more work. Senior Chris Ellis, used the Coach "O" diet, which consisted of absolutely no fast food. Soda, chips, and candy definitely did not meet the health criteria of this diet, and were exiled from players' mouths as well.

"It takes a lot of determination and dedication," stated Chris. "I have to eat fruits, vegetables, and lots of protein. Now that I have stuck with the "O" diet, I feel better about myself. I have a lot more self-esteem," said Chris. And Chris had results! According to the scales he lost 50 pounds.

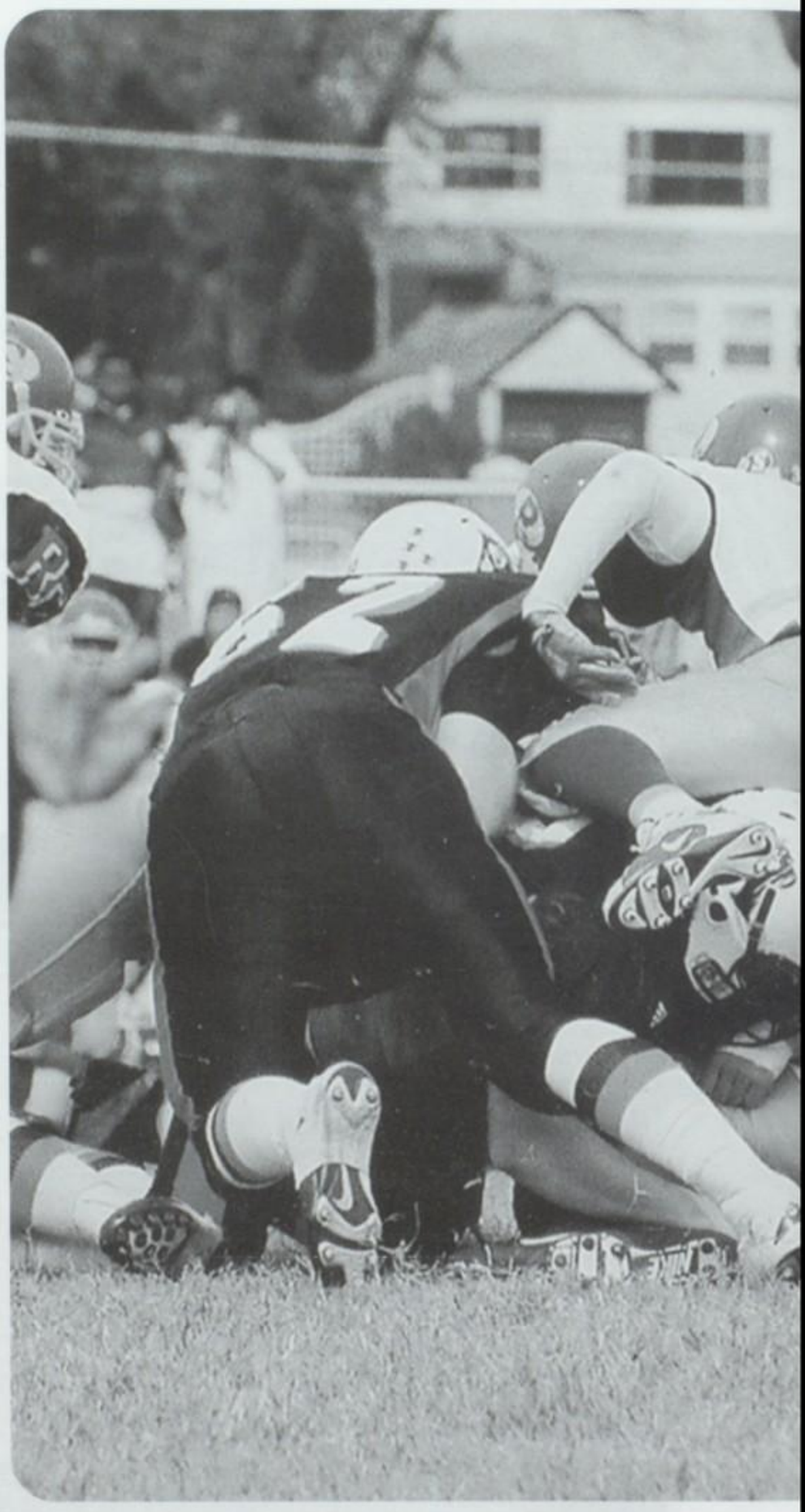
Sophomore Cerron Baker was also on a diet. Slightly different than Chris', he partook in a "no pork" diet. "Pork is extremely fatty," Cerron expressed, eating healthy on a regular basis helped him maintain a healthy lifestyle. "I believe in eating healthy and exercising a lot. It will help me live a long and healthy youthful life," stated Cerron.

Freshman Jacob McGrotty did not adapt to the football style of living at the beginning of the season because he was new to the football program. As the season went on he began to understand the importance of eating healthy and drinking water. "It is tough to adapt to all of the new habits and routines," said Jacob.

Although players had their personal diets to fit their needs, the football team had a universal water diet. Water was the staple of the every football diet. Along with his "O" diet, Chris Ellis drank a lot of water to keep hydrated. Water kept players from having cramps. All diets required drinking a minimum of one gallon of water a day; it was a must.



Facing off against Normandy in the first game of the season, the Huskies crouch ready to contend with their opponent. The Huskies eventually won the match, 33 to 18.



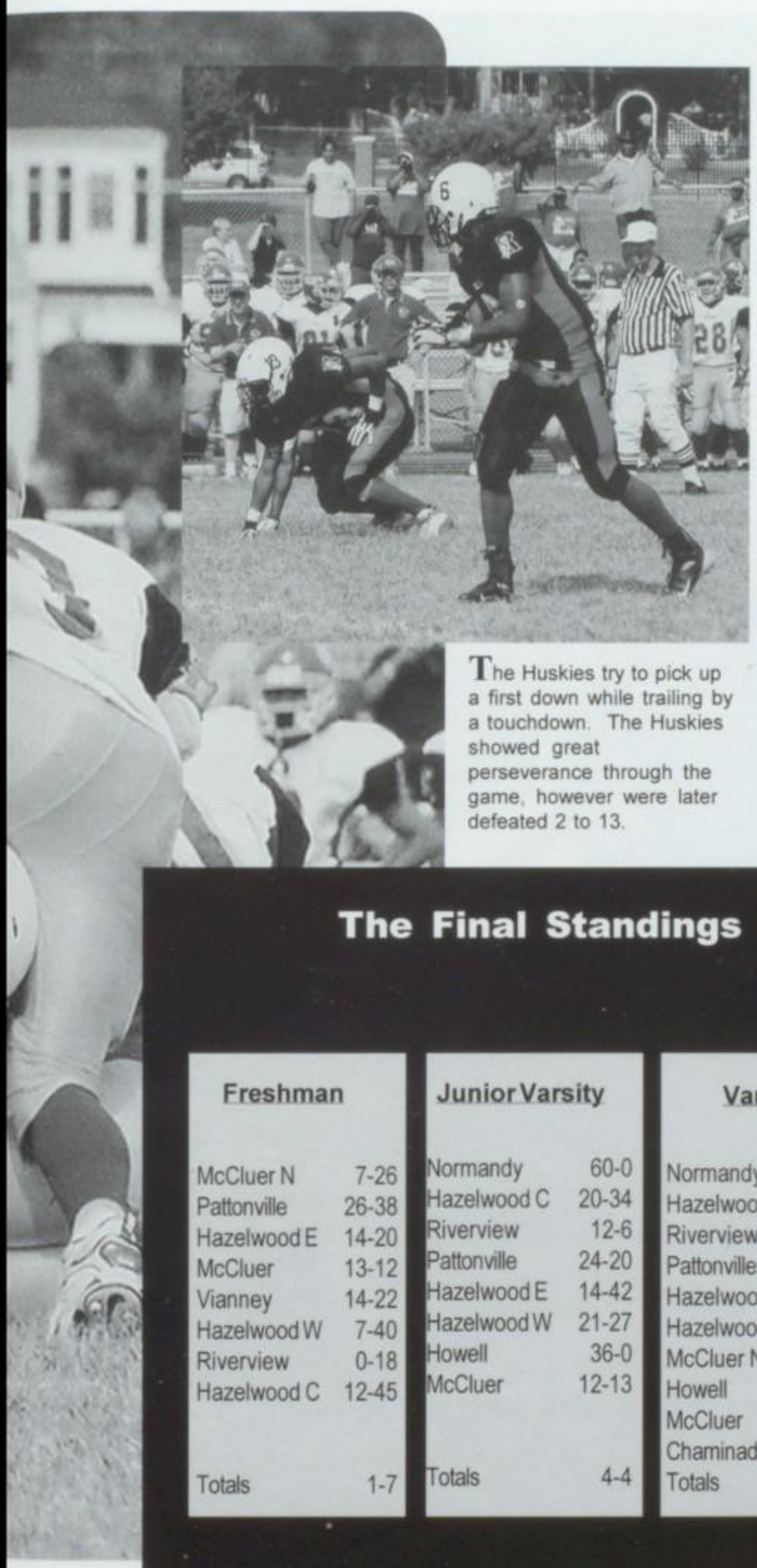
Do you believe in diets?

"No, diets are only for those who need them. If you don't need one and you use one you can do more harm than good."
-Deangelo Rodgers, 11th grade

"Yes, I know people that have benefited from using diets and are glad that they stuck through with it. It was for the best in the end."
-Ken Williams, 12th grade

"When used properly, dieting can be a wonderful thing to use. They can give you more energy and enhance your day to day life."
-Phillip Dienhoff, 9th grade

"Dieting can be an extremely good tool for the athletes. Sometimes excercise just simply is not enough."
-William Flannery, 11th grade



Anticipating the snap, seniors Justin Scott and Antonio Washington prepare to execute a maneuver. Plays like these were run often during the homecoming game against Riverview.

The Huskies try to pick up a first down while trailing by a touchdown. The Huskies showed great perseverance through the game, however were later defeated 2 to 13.

The Final Standings

Freshman	
McCluer N	7-26
Pattonville	26-38
Hazelwood E	14-20
McCluer	13-12
Vianney	14-22
Hazelwood W	7-40
Riverview	0-18
Hazelwood C	12-45
Totals	1-7

Junior Varsity	
Normandy	60-0
Hazelwood C	20-34
Riverview	12-6
Pattonville	24-20
Hazelwood E	14-42
Hazelwood W	21-27
Howell	36-0
McCluer	12-13
Totals	4-4

Varsity	
Normandy	33-18
Hazelwood C	7-27
Riverview	2-13
Pattonville	14-45
Hazelwood E	13-43
Hazelwood W	20-34
McCluer N	21-51
Howell	0-38
McCluer	31-0
Chaminade	34-14
Totals	3-7

Freshman. *First Row:* Kennith Furbee, Mark Hagan, Lawremce Brawn, Jacob Boesecker, Julius Mongumery, Zachary McFarland, Jordan Gunter, Derrik Vally. *Second Row:* Justin Ortiz, Billy Joe Burgess, Brandon Mitchell, Coach Mason, Coach Koeller, Coach Washington, Coach Bonner, Adam Nickleson, William Smith, Phillip Dienoff. *Third Row:* Nathen Kramer, Terrel Williams, Brandon Westbrook, Brandon Moonshine, Thomas Mack, Iseah Okohson-Reb, Patrick Cordia, Derrick Snow, Antonio Cole, Paul Nator, Victor Garcia. *Fourth Row:* Michael Guest, Ryan Hoffman, Charles Rodgers, Jacob McGrotty, Jared Murphy, Trent Broan, Lance McDonald, Kyle Bowley, Tyrone Mitchell, Aaron Moody. *Fifth Row:* Kameron Womack, Chris Pace, Andrew Tubbs, Kenneth Shumate, Adam Willhite, Robert Hunter, Dan Swearson, Delector Swanigan, Kenneth Shumate, Derek Jackson, Steven Wuest.

Varsity. *Front Row:* Andrew Milton, DJ Dyson, Brandon Carr, Antoine Cowen, Rodrick Anthony, Chris Ellis, Jaron Wilkins, William Exom, Martez Hawkins, Cerron Baker, Terry Paker, Darrion Landrum. *Second Row:* Kayla Cattage, Dominic Richardson, Mike Brown, Michael Holland, Antonio Washington, Coach Patton, Coach Gregory, Coach Shelton, Coach Green, Jeff Johnson, Mario Larkin, Jeff Nagle, Demetria Coats. *Third Row:* William Flannery, Brandon Jones, Daniel Lampley, Alan Crook, Bobby Martin, Cornell Williams, William Glover, Cameron Howard, Abraham Denani, Owen Gray, Billy Boner. *Fourth Row:* Joshuaa Wuest, Ferris Nelson, Justin Scott, Chris Tillman, Ryan Shetfield, Delon Hill, Wendell Hams, Anthony Boyd, Ryan Sweeney, Deangelo Rogers. *Fifth Row:* AJ Stallins, Justin O'Brian, Eddie Fountain, Travis Burks, Mike Bialik, Frisco Baugh, Chip Buyat, Ken Williams, Tony Schaal, Jason Aikhoff, Josh McGrotty.

Feminine Brutality

Girls' Volleyball challenges their opponents as well as their bodies

by Kristy Johnson

Violence among girls seems to be a growing trend. Female prison populations in the United States have risen 275% since 1980.

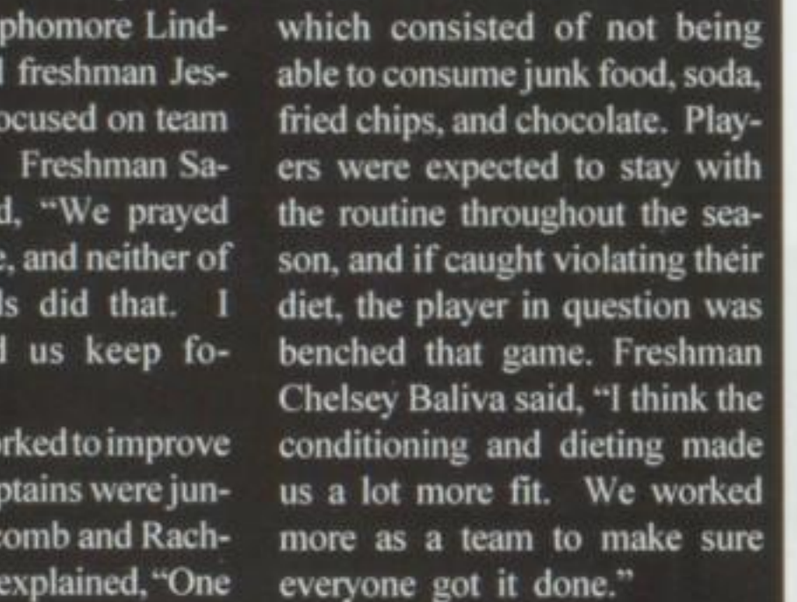
Girls' volleyball players exhibit this viciousness on the court. It's in their walk; it's even in their talk. What other sport is there with lingo like "kills," "spikes," and "bumps"? These girls were obsessed with intense diet and exercise and a fierce attitude that helped keep them both physically in tune and ultimately united them as a team. Freshman captains were Jasmine Johnson and Kera Brashear. Freshman Brittany Collins felt that, "Playing volleyball was really fun. We're all really close now; we're like sisters."

The junior varsity team captains were sophomore Lindsay Cranmer and freshman Jessica Delk, who focused on team building as well. Freshman Sarah Hensley said, "We prayed before each game, and neither of the other squads did that. I guess it helped us keep focused."

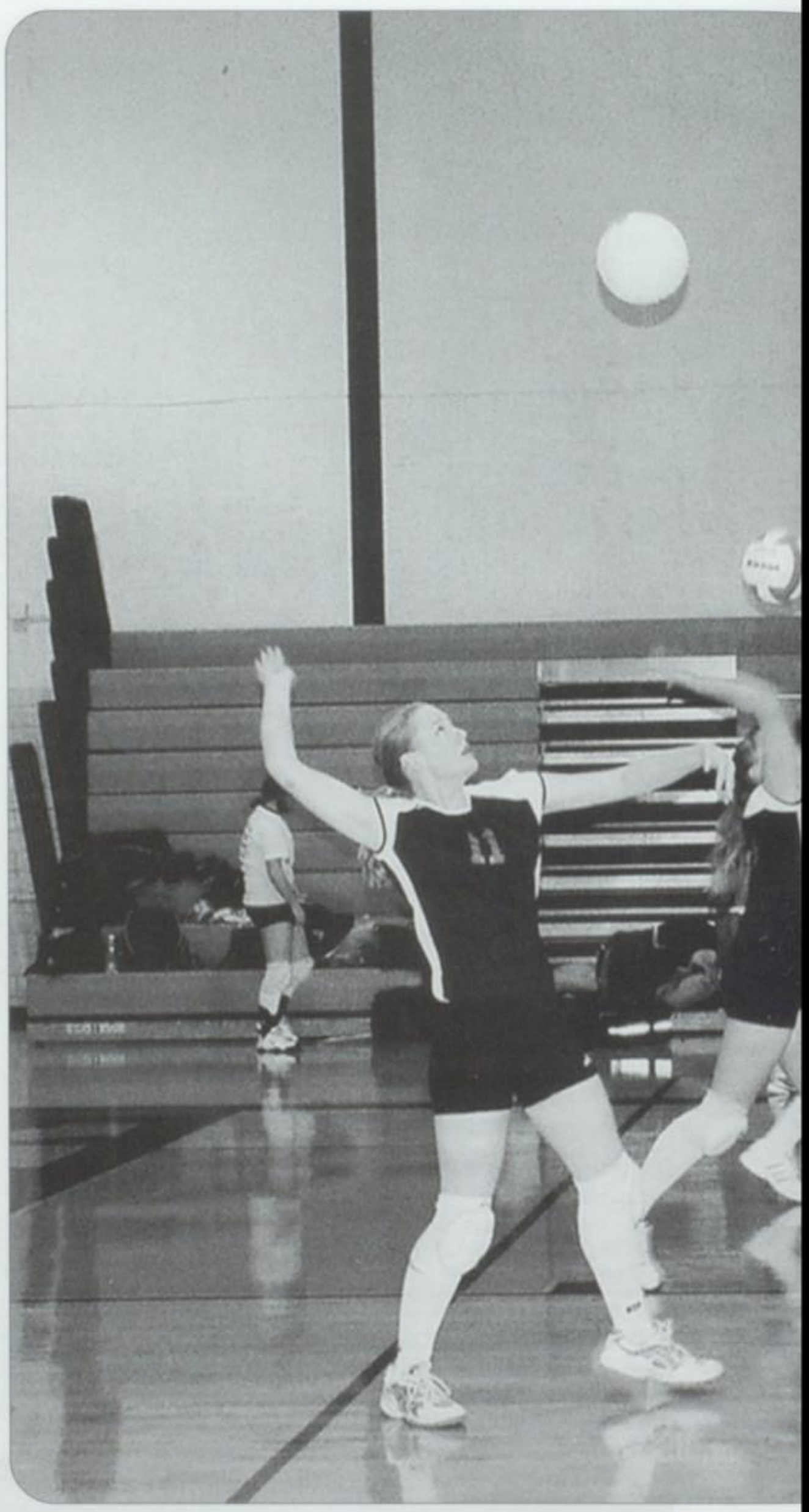
Varsity worked to improve morale. Their captains were juniors Carrie Whitcomb and Rachel Wester. Carrie explained, "One fun thing we did was lay down on the ten foot line and hit balls at each other. Before every game, Rachel Wester did all of our hair; we called it 'volleyball hair'. Then we'd sit in the center of the court and talk about our goals for the game."

Sophomore Megan Traw said, "Coach Shelton was hilarious. She always made funny faces and noises when she played. She kept us all together like a family; she always made sure everything was resolved no matter what. She's just really cool."

The pre-season practices were filled with countless drills, from sprinting and stabilizers to crunches and push-ups. The girls ran a mile a day and had to adhere to a strict diet routine, which consisted of not being able to consume junk food, soda, fried chips, and chocolate. Players were expected to stay with the routine throughout the season, and if caught violating their diet, the player in question was benched that game. Freshman Chelsey Baliva said, "I think the conditioning and dieting made us a lot more fit. We worked more as a team to make sure everyone got it done."



Before each game the players take time to warm up. Junior Brittany White practiced her bump with other members of the varsity team.



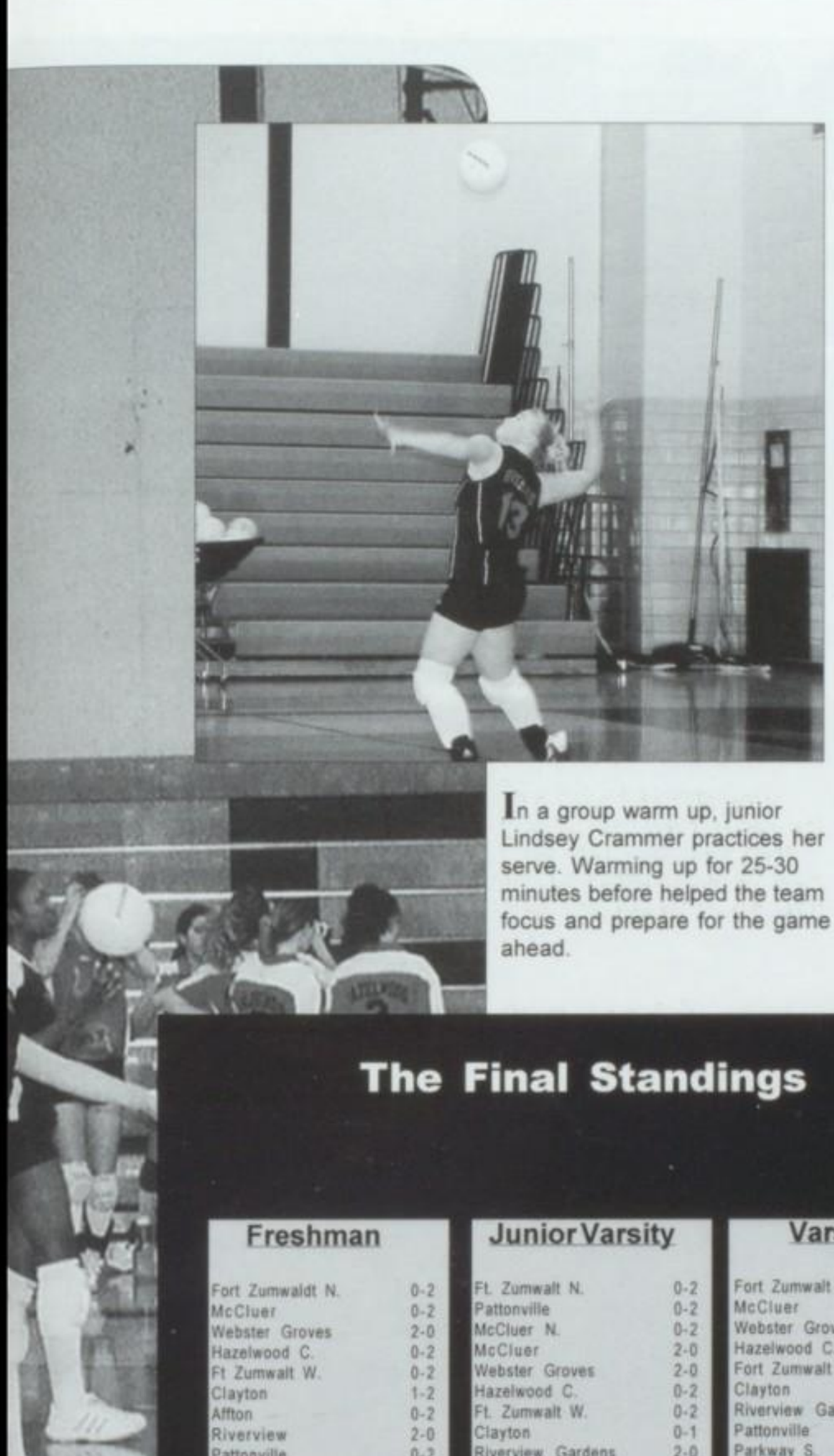
What was your favorite part about being on the team?

Playing as a team, and when we went go-carting, it was fun bonding. - Ashley Dorton, 11th grade

My favorite thing was getting to compete and bonding with my team. - Rachel Wester, 11th grade

Working with my teammates. - Carrie Abercrombie, 9th grade

Being part of a team. - De'vonne Patrick, 10th grade



After getting the ball back from Hazelwood West, junior Carrie Whitcomb serves. Carrie scored three points before the ball was back in the opponent's possession.

In a group warm up, junior Lindsey Crammer practices her serve. Warming up for 25-30 minutes before helped the team focus and prepare for the game ahead.

Freshman. *Front Row*: Jasmine Johnson, Alicia Claxton, Jasshe Palm, Alicia Tharp. *Second Row*: Christina Campbell, Aisshe Palm, Carrie Abercrombie, Kera Brashear, Tangela Oatis. *Back Row*: Coach Shelton, Coach Alferman, Chelsey Baliva, Tara Rice, Bridget Willis, Liette Harriel, Brittany Collins, Coach Green, Coach Thompson.

Junior Varsity. *Front Row*: Sarah Hensley, Kati Marshall, Chelsea Nester. *Second Row*: Jessica Delk, Lindsay Cranmer. *Back Row*: Coach Shelton, Coach Alferman, De'vonne Patrick, Jamie McKinley, Burgandy Bonser, Coach Green, Coach Thompson.

Varsity. *Front Row*: Carrie Whitcomb, Rachel Wester, Katie Ayres. *Second Row*: Meagan Traw, Brittany White. *Back Row*: Coach Shelton, Coach Alferman, Brittney Curtis, Ashley Dorton, Deidre Woodberry, Melissa Sabin, Kylee Raney, Coach Green, Coach Thompson.

The Final Standings

Freshman

Fort Zumwaldt N.	0-2
McCluer	0-2
Webster Groves	2-0
Hazelwood C.	0-2
Ft Zumwalt W.	0-2
Clayton	1-2
Affton	0-2
Riverview	2-0
Pattonville	0-2
Lutheran St. Charles	0-2
Affton	0-2
Orchard Farms	1-1
Parkway S.	0-2
Hazelwood E.	1-1
Hazelwood C.	0-2
Hazelwood E.	0-2
Hazelwood W.	0-2
McCluer N.	0-2
Orchard Farms	0-2
Total	2-2-15

Junior Varsity

Ft. Zumwalt N.	0-2
Pattonville	0-2
McCluer N.	0-2
McCluer	2-0
Webster Groves	2-0
Hazelwood C.	0-2
Ft. Zumwalt W.	0-2
Clayton	0-1
Riverview Gardens	2-0
Pattonville	0-2
Hazelwood E.	1-2
ROTC	2-0
Ft. Zumwalt N.	0-2
Parkway S.	0-2
Hazelwood E.	1-2
Ladue	1-2
University City	2-0
Normandy	2-0
Hazelwood W.	0-2
McCluer N.	1-2
Lafayette	0-2
Total	6-0-14

Varsity

Fort Zumwalt N.	2-1
McCluer	2-0
Webster Groves	0-2
Hazelwood C.	0-2
Fort Zumwalt W.	1-2
Clayton	0-2
Riverview Gardens	2-0
Pattonville	0-2
Parkway S.	0-2
Hazelwood E.	2-0
Ladue	0-2
University City	2-0
Normandy	2-0
Hazelwood W.	0-2
McCluer N.	0-2
Lafayette	0-2
Parkway C.	0-2
Total	6-0-11

Mind Over Body

More than just running

by Tonia O'Neal

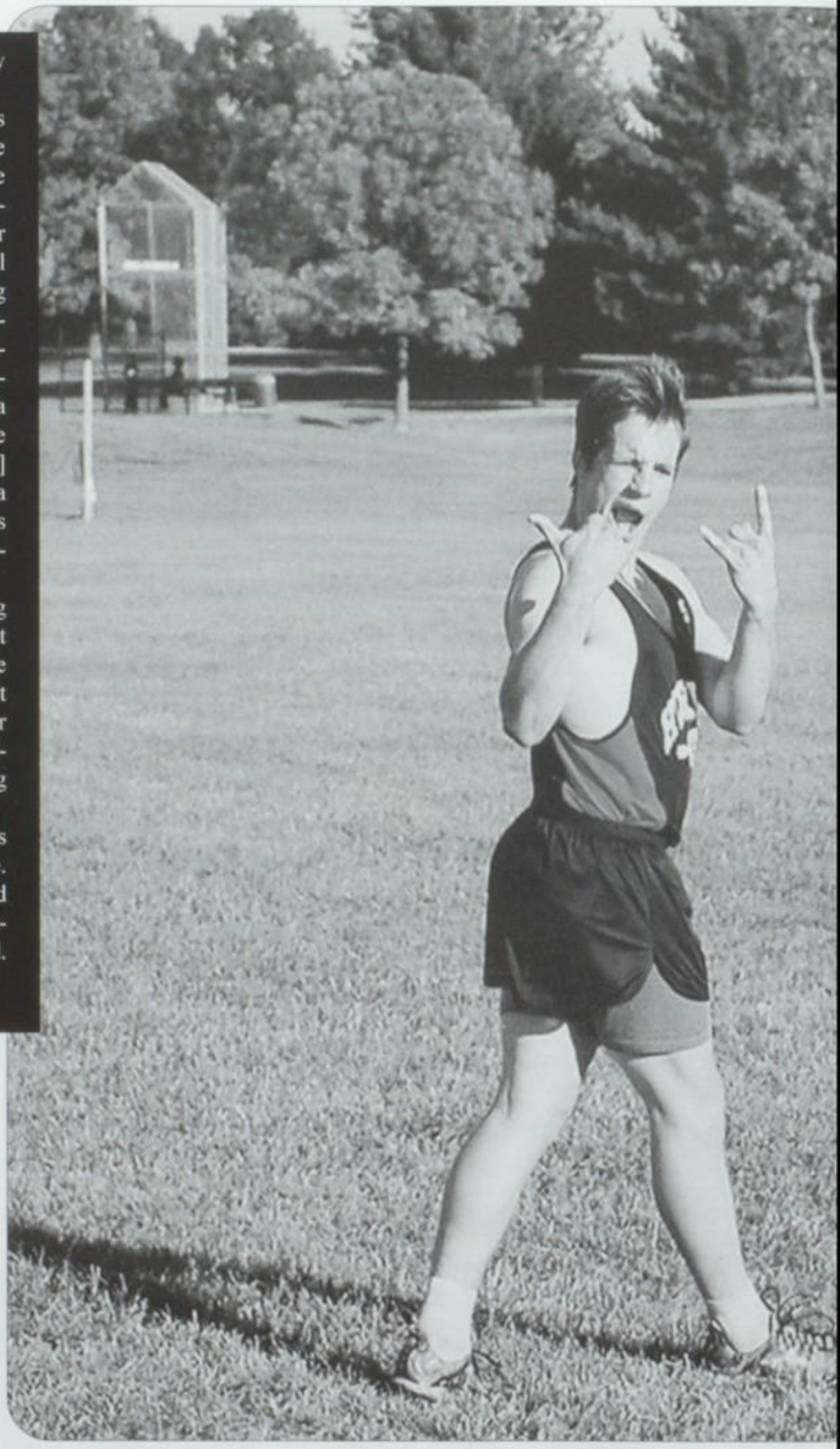
Cross-Country -- it is not a sport with a ball, and it is not just running either! The first thing that usually came to people's minds when they heard "cross country" was running, lots and lots of running. Though it may have been a nice pastime, the cross country team proved that the sport was about more than simply running. It was about passion, friendship, training, and, most importantly, determination.

The drive and determination in each runner was fueled by the need to beat their own times. Unlike most team sports where the object was to compete against another team or player, cross country players tried to defeat other runners as well as beating themselves. Yes, it may seem odd, but in this sport the players were their own opponent. "Running is a challenge, you have to beat your own speed, while having correct form, and then winning the race," commented sophomore Tracy Johnson.

However, the players felt that training was still the main reason participants love the sport, due to the encouragement they got from their teammates. Senior Tom Hill said, "I most enjoy being able to train with my teammates right next to me because it is more encouraging." Sophomore Amanda Heil agreed, saying, "The people on the team [were] really great." Training was a way to develop friendships and simultaneously self-improve.

Although training made running fun, it was not all play and no work. The players worked hard to get "fit faster and have better endurance," said Olivia Williams, a freshman running first-year track.

Cross-Country was not simply running a course. It was a sport that involved enthusiasm, alliance, preparation, and strength of mind.



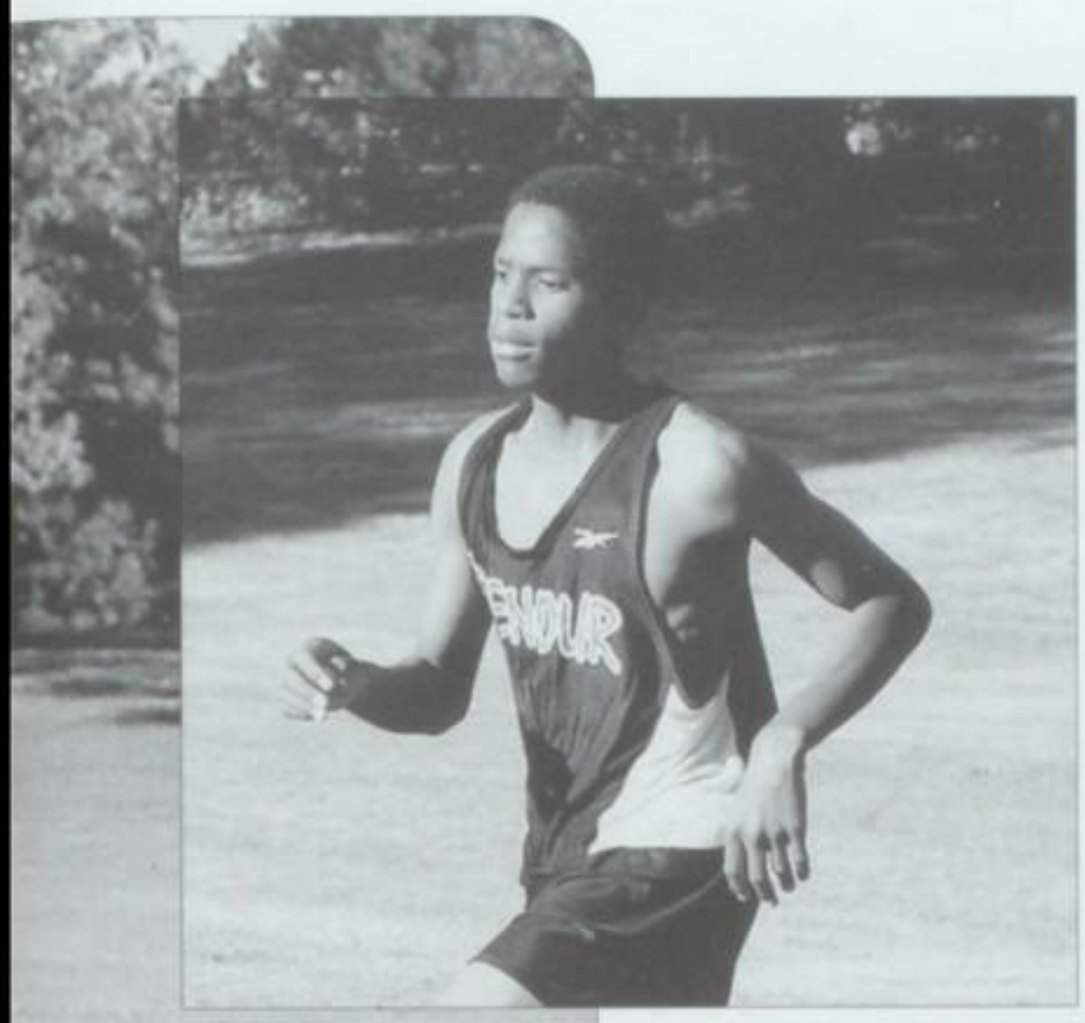
Mental prepartation is key to every race. Senior Katie Brown walked toward the starting line, focusing, while preparing herself for the race.

What do you think about when you run?

"I keep telling myself I only have a little left to go and that I can make it."
-Amanda Heil, 10th grade

"I think about all sorts of stuff, like school or friends. I try to stay focused on keeping a good form and pace."
-Katie Brown, 12th grade

"Expressing the feelings you have inside and letting go of the negative energy."
-Tracy Johnson, 10th grade



Even for sophomore Garrett Lacy, running his all-time best was a very difficult feat. The runners practiced for hours before and after school to beat their best times.

Cooling down, senior Tom Hill celebrates his fourth place finish. Hill said the best part of races was "the exhilaration of winning, or coming close to first."

Cross Country. *First Row*: Tracy Johnson, Tom Hill, Amanda Heil. *Middle Row*: Katie Brown, Lyndsey Shaw, Whitney Shaw, Luke Surtin. *Back Row*: Coach Hawkins-Carter, Ashlee Piacentini, Rory Surtin, Coach Wheeler.

Eager to begin the race, sophmore Amanda Heil quickly walks toward the starting line followed by her coaches.

Coach Hawkins-Carter gives sophomore Josh Peters a few tips before his upcoming race. Runners needed a lot of support from their coaches and teammates.

What is your favorite course to run?

"Jefferson Barracks. The terrain is always changing and there is never a dull moment."
-Tom Hill, 12th grade

"McCluer." -Katie Brown, 12th grade

"The 400." -Rory Surtin, 12th grade

"My favorite course is Sioux Passage because there is a huge hill and when I persevered, I made it up the hill when everyone else didn't."
-Amanada Heil, 10th grade

A Kick in the Right Direction

Soccer players do anything for the win

by Rachel Valdez

Cleating, slide tackling, checking, and scissors. This may sound like something heard in a wrestling match, but they were actually just a few of the common injuries in soccer.

The most common of the bunch was cleating. This happened when a player deliberately kicked or shoved their metal cleats into another player. A number of the players admitted that this, not a broken patella or crushed cranium, was their worst fear.

However, some of the soccer players actually claimed that they would like to see more contact and violence. Junior Jacob Fisher went so far as to say, "There's not enough; it makes games more interesting."

With this kind of aggression, one might surmise that there would be more serious injuries and hospitalizations, but that was not true. A torn kneecap seemed to be the most serious injury, and even that was taken in stride. Tim McEntire, a sophomore, explained that his hospitalization for his knee lasted "just a few hours."

There did not seem to be a lack in quantity of injuries, though. Sprained ankles, pulled muscles, and being cleated were some of the most common ways to get hurt.

Soccer was not a sport for the faint of heart. Freshman Bulmaro Medina boldly stated, "People think it's a soft sport, but it's not! [At least] football people wear pads."

Yet, senior Justin Pillarick took a more passive approach when he advised, "Don't hurt anyone and don't get hurt."

Practicing is all about speed and endurance to help the player can outrun his opponent. The race was on as Tim Buxman chased after the ball to recover it before Sam Lawrence could score a goal for his team.

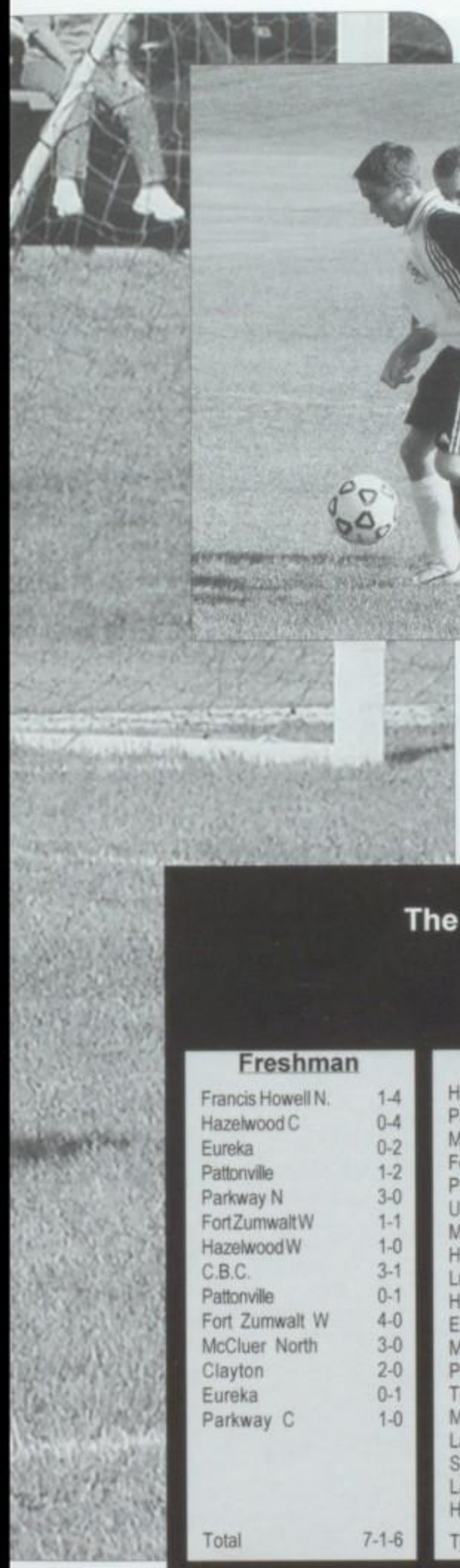
What was your worst injury?

"Getting hit in the face while it was cold." –Tim Buxman, 10th grade

"Bruised ribs." –C.J. Aubuchon, 9th grade

"Trying to chest and getting hit really hard." –Richard Andrade, 9th grade

"I've never been seriously injured, but spraining my ankle was really bad." –Nick Vitale, 12th grade



Fancy footwork keeps the other team on their feet. Sophomore Chris Frambers kept the ball away from his opponent, Tony Boyle.

Heading back up field, freshman Shane Gordon carries the ball away from his goal post. This soccer player's main focus was getting the ball from his opponents.

The Final Standings

Freshman

Francis Howell N.	1-4
Hazelwood C	0-4
Eureka	0-2
Pattonville	1-2
Parkway N	3-0
Fort Zumwalt W	1-1
Hazelwood W	1-0
C.B.C.	3-1
Pattonville	0-1
Fort Zumwalt W	4-0
McCluer North	3-0
Clayton	2-0
Eureka	0-1
Parkway C	1-0
Total	7-1-6

Junior Varsity

Hazelwood W	1-5
Pattonville	0-3
McCluer	0-0
Fort Zumwalt N	1-2
Parkway N	1-3
U City	1-1
McCluer N	1-2
Hazelwood W	5-16
Lutheran SC	2-2
Hazelwood C	0-6
Eureka	1-2
Mater Dei	4-0
Pattonville	0-2
Timberland	1-0
McCluer	1-2
Lafayette	0-4
St. Charles	3-2
Ladue	1-2
Holt	2-1
Total	4-3-12

Varsity

Pattonville	0-1
Timberland	1-3
Hazelwood E	8-0
Fort Zumwalt N	1-2
Parkway N	0-2
Hazelwood W	0-3
Lutheran SC	1-2
Hazelwood C	0-1
Eureka	1-6
Metro	1-0
McCluer N	0-1
Mater Dei	3-1
Pattonville	0-5
Timberland	0-4
McCluer	2-0
Lafayette	1-5
Hazelwood E	3-2
Clayton	2-1
Parkway N	0-1
Total	5-14

Varsity. *First Row:* Cody Niedringhaus, Daniel Freeman, Karl Kulaitis, Mike Stevenson, and Timothy Berry. *Second Row:* Alfredo Dominguez, Christopher Aubuchon, Alberto Cueto, Sergio Gomez, Richard Andradè, and Nick Vitale. *Back Row:* Coach Martinez, Zach Buxman, Ryan Walters, Mark Sater, David Shoults, Justin Pillarick, Tim Buxman, and Coach Lohnes.

Junior Varsity. *First Row:* Christian Nieto, Shane Gordon, Timmothy McEntire, Yu Cheng Lieng, and David Malawey. *Second Row:* Angela Wamser, Matt Garner, Stephen Huff, Chris Frambers, Daniel Black, Matt Williford, Seve Farde. *Back Row:* Josh Peters, Chris Lammert, Jacob Fisher, Coach Murray, Jacob Vargo, Sam Bazzeto, and A.J. Curran.

Freshman. *First Row:* Jordan Jentsch, Robert Hoang, Zach Hoffmann, Coach DeMuria, Phillip Hedlund, Tyler Tetrault, and Evan Antoine. *Back Row:* Ryan Curtis, Griffin Wesche, Michael Hill, Bulmaro Medina, Josh Goldacker, Mark Ford, and Doug Hicks.

Breathe, Stretch, Shake

Players stretch for success

by Erin Lampe

Right hand behind your head. Now pull slightly on your elbow with your left hand 1-2-3-4-5…That is what the boys' swim team and the girls' tennis team heard at the start of every practice and before every game.

"It is important to stretch before you do anything that is physical," senior Chris Albin explained. "Before a meet, we stretch, hang out, and prepare ourselves mentally as well as physically to make sure that we don't get hurt."

Freshmen Andrew Dickens agreed. "Stretching is an important part of any sport. It relaxes you and gets you ready for the competition. You need to stretch both your arms and your legs, but pay special attention to the muscles that you use for your stroke."

The team demonstrated with their winning record that stretching did help the team come out on top. "It is important to remain focused on swimming and keep yourself from pulling muscles, I know this for a fact because I really messed up my shoulder because I didn't stretch it enough and kept working it until it gave out," senior Kennedy Moore said.

Swimming was not the only sport that benefited from stretching. Tennis was also a very strenuous sport. Running around on the courts and having to battle the blazing hot sun caused many injuries. Senior Joni Geil painfully remembered, "I was hitting against Michelle Aubuchon in warm ups, and I jumped up to try and hit the ball. When I landed on my ankle, it went 'BLINK.' I had to sit out that day."

The girls' tennis team worked on basic fundamentals in what Coach Bell called a "Rebuilding year." "We tried to get the girls back in shape and keep them from hurting them self."

Though the girls took careful precautions to keep from getting sore muscles, getting them was still not uncommon. Angela Hoang said, "My legs hurt the most after a competition because I have to chase the ball through the entire match."

"Stretching is important for all types of sports. You have to keep yourself healthy," claimed junior Brad Young. Both teams ended on a happy note, and they felt that next year would begin where the last left off…6-7-8-9-10 release.

Without any obstacles to stand in the way, serving is one of the hardest techniques to conquer. Fighting the sun and fatigue, junior Anh Nyugen tried to serve an ace on the U City's doubles team.

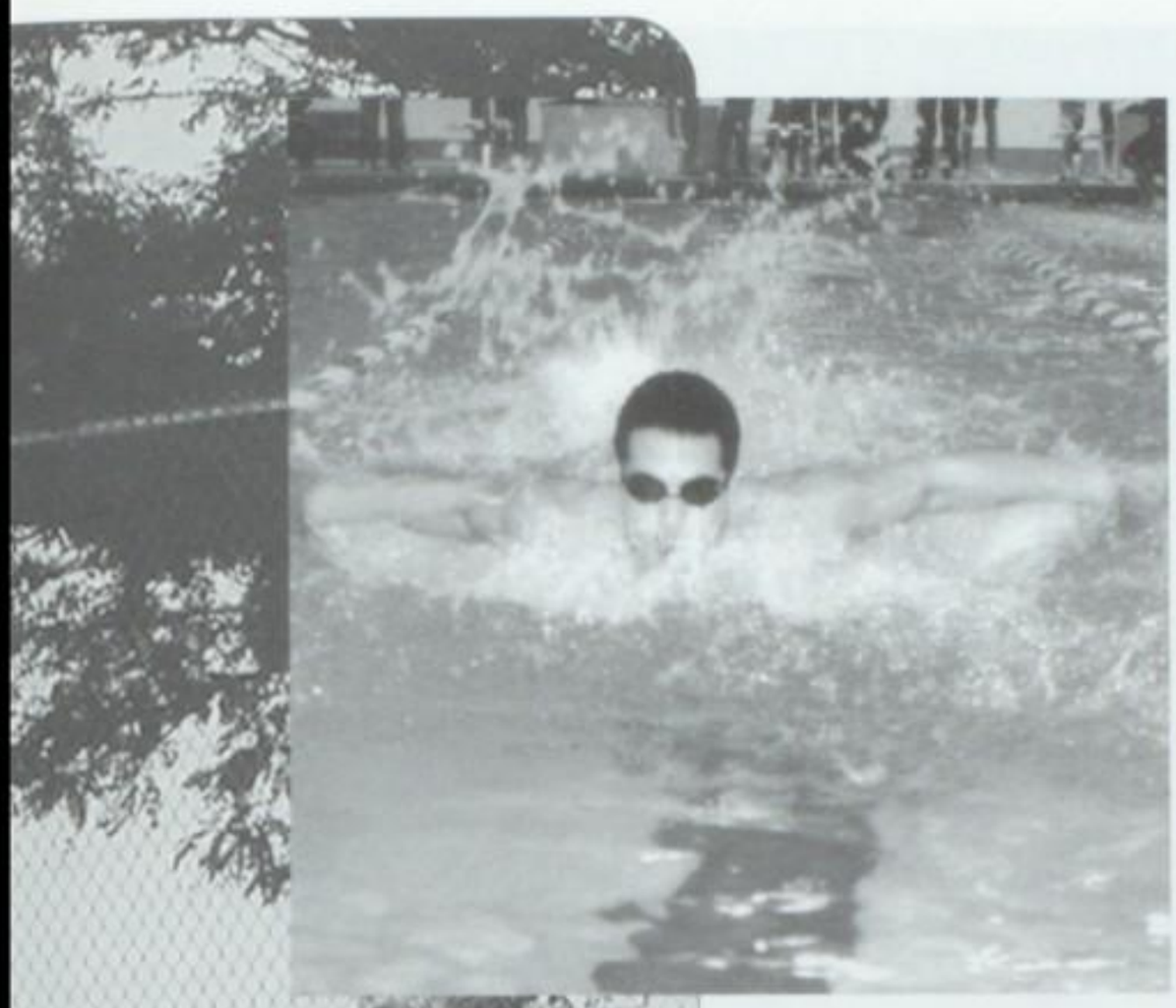
What is the most important thing to stretch?

"Your arms, to pull yourself ." --Andrew Dickens, 9th grade

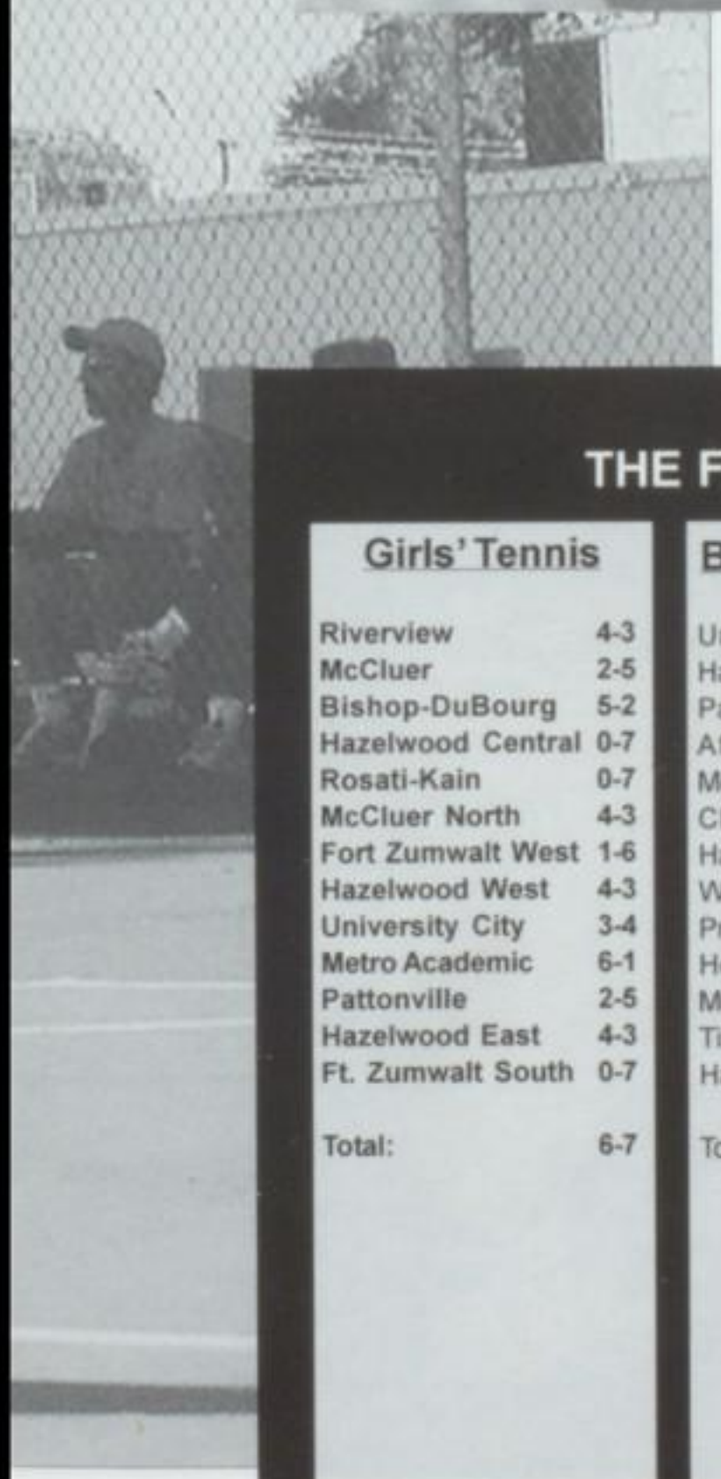
"Your arms and your legs, to pull and to kick." --Brad Young, 11th grade

"You need to stretch your legs because you are always running." --Crystal Ruebel, 9th grade

"Both your arms and your legs, to stay on your toes and have power to swing." --Charlotte Montague 10th grade



Doing Butterfly in the 200 yard Medley Relay, senior DeLon Hill pulled himself and his team to state with a time of 1.48.44.



As the tennis ball flies across the net, senior Joni Geil uses her quick decision making to decide which shot to choose to return. With a hard forehand, she got the point, which led to a win for her doubles team.

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Girls' Tennis

Riverview	4-3
McCluer	2-5
Bishop-DuBourg	5-2
Hazelwood Central	0-7
Rosati-Kain	0-7
McCluer North	4-3
Fort Zumwalt West	1-6
Hazelwood West	4-3
University City	3-4
Metro Academic	6-1
Pattonville	2-5
Hazelwood East	4-3
Ft. Zumwalt South	0-7
Total:	6-7

Boys' Swimming

University City	108-75
Hazelwood West	87-97
Pattonville	116-64
Affton	95-74
McCluer North	113-73
Clayton	136-56
Hazelwood East	153-24
Westminster	110-69
Principia	143-35
Holt	102-81
McCluer	115-40
Timberland	127-58
Hazelwood Central	88-98
Total:	11-2

Achievements

Boys' Swimming

Three new school records achieved:

- Chris Albin, 100 Breast:1:06.45
- Chris McGlynn, Chris Albin, DeLon Hill, and Jacob Fisher, 200 Medley Relay: 1:48.44
- Delon Hill, Kyle Merisotes, Brad Young, and Jacob Fisher, 400 Free Relay:3:39.33

State Qualifiers:
Chris Albin, Jacob Fisher, DeLon Hill, Chris McGlynn

Girls' Tennis

Suburban North Tournament Results:
Joni Geil/Angela Hoang: 2nd Place, 2nd Doubles
Crystal Ruebel /Anh Nguyen: 3rd Place, 3rd Doubles

Girls' Tennis. *Front Row:* Sarah Cooley, Keisha White, Jamie Shepherd, Aimee Dyer, Victoria Schwartz, Angela Hoang. *Second Row:* Emily Howard, Heather Roush, Michelle Aubuchon, Isaura DaRosa, Joni Geil, Crystal Ruebel. *Back Row:* Kelly Riley, Rosa Hernandez, Charlotte Montague, Jodi Johnson, Tomi Sale, Anh Nguyen, Coach Jared Bell.

Boys' Swimming. *Front Row:* Coach Wren, Andrew Dickens, George Mesinger, Samuel Gassner, Griffin Wesche, Michael Hill, Luke Surtin, Coach McFarland. *Second Row:* Jeff Wright, David Mulholland, Chris Haley, Pritesh Patel, Andrew Heil, Tom Hill, Alex Young. *Third Row:* Rory Surtin, Brad Young, Jake Fisher, Adam Shoults, David Shoults, Mark Sater, Jeff Ogelsby, John Hynes. *Fourth Row:* Marcus Johnson, Kyle Merisotes, Chris McGlynn, Kennedy Moore, Chris Albin, Andy Hedlund, DeLon Hill, A.J. Curran.

Before a meet, the team gets loose by doing some warm-up laps. Their commitment to preparation led to their winning season.

Dribble Down, Lay Up

Crashing the Boards

by Erin Lampe

Who knew that wiping the soles of your shoes before you step on the court could bring you good luck, or that the last person to make a free throw at the end of warm-ups would have a good game? Have you ever wondered if superstitions really work, or if it is just some hoax invented by the makers of lucky coins and rabbits' feet? Superstitions sometimes play a big role in the world of sports, from Michael Jordan wearing his UNC shorts under his Bulls uniform to Nomar Garciaparra tapping his toes and pulling his gloves before every bat.

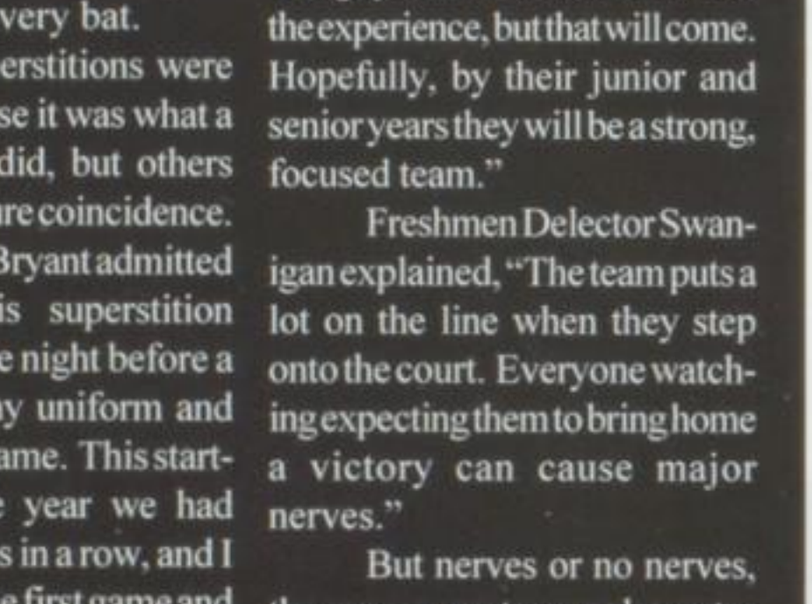
Some superstitions were picked up because it was what a famous athlete did, but others came about by pure coincidence. Junior Justin O'Bryant admitted that was how his superstition came to be. "The night before a game, I sit in my uniform and watch an NBA game. This started because one year we had games two nights in a row, and I got home from the first game and I was still in my jersey and I sat down and watched a minute of the game, and the next day I was on fire!"

Senior Chris Minner, a member of the varsity basketball team, believed that superstitions were the mental part of the game. "To some people, superstitions are a huge waste of time, but they make you believe that you will do well. Looks like that old saying was true, sports are 90% mental and only 10% physical."

The freshman coach, Derrick Robinson, an SSD teacher at Hoech Middle School, chose not to believe in superstitions. "I think that if the guys believe in their coach and they are comfortable with him and with each other, they can and will succeed. The guys have the talent but lack the experience, but that will come. Hopefully, by their junior and senior years they will be a strong, focused team."

Freshmen Delector Swanigan explained, "The team puts a lot on the line when they step onto the court. Everyone watching expecting them to bring home a victory can cause major nerves."

But nerves or no nerves, the season went on, and eventually came to an end. Some of the guys were sad to see it come. "I think this season was a good learning experience, and I can't wait for next year," said sophomore Keith Hudson.



Waiting for a clean shot at the basket, sophomore Yu Cheng Lieng shows off his techniques by protecting the ball. His effort illustrated the Husky drive.

What rituals do you perform before a game?

"I listen to my CD player." --Andy Moore, 11th grade

"Nothing, I just relax with my teammates." --David Sabin, 9th grade

"I talk to my teammates about what strategies we should use." --Yu Cheng Lieng, 10th grade

"I watch the JV game and take mental notes." --Wyndall Bryant

In a battle to keep possession of the ball, freshmen Derick Johnson, Trent Brown, and Delector Swanigan work to ensure that the McCluer player is the last to touch the ball. They then were able to throw back in.

Trying to bring his team back in the game, junior Cornell Williams concentrates on making his free throw against McCluer. He sank the shot with a swoosh.

Freshmen. *First Row*: Kyle Kalbarto, Leland Barnett, Christian Nieto, Mark Cooley, Stephen Combs, Josh Robinson. *Second Row*: Justin Salini, Trent Brown, Antonio Thomas, Adam Nickelson, Gary Gandy, David Sabin. *Back Row:* Kenith Thomas, Chris Pace, Coach Derick, Derick Johnson, Delector Swanigan.

Junior Varsity. *First Row*: Keith Hudson, Brandon Kennard, Yu Cheng Lieng. *Second Row*: Maurice Couch, Terry Hardieway, Romeo Dishman, Andrew Lomax. *Back Row*: Coach Demittis, Daniel Lampley, Theodore Williams, Preston Bradley, Blake Lewis.

Varsity. *First Row*: Whitney Stallings, Cornell Williams, Antonio Washington, Mike Brown, Brooke Stone. *Second Row*: Anthony Boyd, Chris Minner, Ferris Nelson, Andy Moore, Anthony Mayer. *Back Row*: Coach Washington, Kevin Brown, Windell Harris, Derrick Howard, Justin O'Bryant, Coach Graves.

THE FINAL STANDINGS. . .

Freshman

Riverview Gardens	
McCluer North	
McCluer North Tournament	
University City	
Kirkwood	
Timberland	
Ft. Zumwalt	
Parkway North	
Wentzville Holt	
Pattonville	
Lafayette	
Hazelwood East	
Parkway West	
McCluer	
Hazelwood West	
Pattonville Tournament	
Hazelwood Central	
Pattonville Tournament	
Normandy	
Totals:	2-16

Junior Varsity

Wentz Holt	32-42
Hazelwood East	32-44
Fort Zummwalt West	22-32
Rockwood	34-31
Ladue	38-54
Parkway West	20-48
Wentz Timberland	36-49
Hazelwood East	30-51
Fox	45-21
McCluer	30-50
Wentz Holt	30-41
Pattonville	20-48
Howell North	40-59
Hazelwood West	47-43
Hazelwood Central	20-42
Parkway North	29-32
Nord High	20-64
McCluer North	30-56
Pattonville	36-44
Riverview	30-63
Fort Zummwalt North	31-50
Totals:	4-17

Varsity

Holt	51-56
St. Charles West	47-79
Hazelwood West	35-51
Lutheran North	47-62
Summit	44-60
Ladue	57-66
McCluer North	58-76
Pattonville	62-38
Hazelwood West	47-66
Parkway West	33-53
Timberland	52-61
Hazelwood East	31-47
Fox	54-53
McCluer	51-77
Holt	52-65
Pattonville	47-57
Parkway North	48-50
Hazelwood West	44-59
Hazelwood Central	48-71
Parkway North	55-66
Normandy	33-64
McCluer North	29-70
Pattonville	37-43
Riverview	28-65
Fort Zummwalt North	55-66
Pattonville	39-41
Totals:	2-24

Hoopsters Hop Up. . .

to defend the Doghouse

by Kristy Johnson

The girls' basketball program began the season with a fresh start and a new work ethic, headed by coaches Warren-Grice and Fowler. The girls worked to improve not only the collective attitude of the team, but pushed hard towards the improvement of their defense as well.

"We have done a lot of team building; we've definitely worked a lot more on defense this year than in the past. We worked a lot of one-on-one time into practices, to make sure that individual players are working on their skills as well as a team," stated assistant Varsity coach, Ms. Fowler. During practice, players worked on a multitude of skills. "On Junior Varsity, we worked on three corners, lay-up drills, jump shots, drills, running drills, offensive drills, and defense," said freshman Kayla Gischer.

The varsity team took a bonding approach in order to create team success. "We focus on communicating on and off the court to become a stronger team," said senior Erica Beger. Varsity did a lot of things together as a team outside of practice and games. Junior Jonnette Hudson said, "We go to the movies, go out to eat, and watch a lot of basketball games on TV as a team." Off the court, Varsity went to a SLU basketball game, and all three teams went to see *Coach Carter*, a movie that stressed the importance of working as a team. "My favorite part of basketball this season is that we hang out a lot more outside of school as a team," said sophomore Katie Keegan.

All three teams worked not only on improving their skills on the court, but on their communication and relationships between players off the court as well. "We are trying to build a program here, and we aren't just focusing on this year. We are trying to set these girls up for success that will last not only for today, but tomorrow, too," said Coach Warren-Grice.

Boosting team morale, the freshman girls' basketball team congregates while the referee looks on. Pep talks before games allowed teams to operate as a unit.

What are some of the things that you believe the team has improved?

"We work together." - Chantrelle Perkins, 9th grade

"We have a lot more fun." - Ciara Cooper, 11th grade

"We win more." - Amber Herold, 10th grade

"We communicate a lot better as a team." - DreShawna Hearod, 12th grade

Maneuvering around Hazelwood Central's defender, freshman Alicia Claxton passes the ball to a teammate. Teamwork such as this led the freshman to a rewarding season.

As the game begins, junior Micah Little sets up a play by passing the ball to junior Jackie Greco. Strategic moves such as passing and defensive traps gave the Huskies an advantage over their opponents.

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Freshman	Junior Varsity	Varsity	
Riverview	Conference Tournament	Riverview	50-42
McCluer North	Conference Tournament	Hazelwood C	19-66
McCluer North Tournament	Parkway North	McCluer N	35-49
McCluer North Tournament	Ladue	Parkway N	53-55
University City	Parkway West	Ladue	43-62
Timberland	Rockwood Summit	Normandy	65-67
Webster Groves	Central Visual & Performing Arts	Cardinal Ritter	39-70
Wentzville Holt	Affton	Parkway W	41-63
Pattonville	Ft. Zumwalt N. Tourney	Summit	55-67
Affton	Wentzville Holt	Affton	60-63
Parkway North	McCluer	Holt	55-61
Parkway West	Ft. Zumwalt N. Tourney	McCluer	30-59
McCluer	Francis Howell North	Howell N	44-72
McCluer Tournament	Hazelwood West	Hazelwood W	44-49
Hazelwood West	Hazelwood East	Hazelwood E	30-49
McCluer Tournament	Hazelwood Central	Hazelwood C	26-66
Hazelwood East	Normandy	Normandy	38-66
McCluer Tournament	McCluer North	McCluer N	32-54
Hazelwood Central	Clayton	Clayton	43-71
Normandy	Pattonville	Pattonville	63-53
	Riverview	Riverview	51-33
	Ft. Zumwalt North	Zumwalt N	71-70
		Parkway N	50-45
		Incarnate	32-59
		Total:	5-23

Freshman. *First Row:* Tamika McCulley, Antaniese Robinson, Lea Woods, Alicia Clayton. *Second Row:* Jessica Wright, Mallorie Peterson,s Meaghan Taylor, Candance Sautman. *Third Row:* Liette Harriel, Janette Rogers, Coach Green, Tamia Robinson, Brittany Thomas.

Junior Varsity. *Front Row:* Chantrelle Perkins, Chelsea Hodapp, Amber Herold, Meagan Swyers. *Second Row:* Crystal Campbell, Kayla Gischer, Antaneice Sills, Ratasha Myers. *Third Row:* Brittney Curtis, Katie Keegan, Coach Moony, Angel Jackson, Kelsey Pritchett.

Varsity. *Front Row:* Lizzette Nieto, Ciara Cooper, Kanisha Moody, Mandi Little. *Second Row:* Erica Beger, Darnicia Darden, Ashleigh Cole, Jamie Henning, Micah Little. *Third Row:* Coach Fowler, Jackie Greco, Jonnette Hudson, Rebekah Young, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Dreshawna Hearod, Coach Warren-Grice.

Polyphonics Pump Pulverizers

Wrestlers boast 8-1 season!

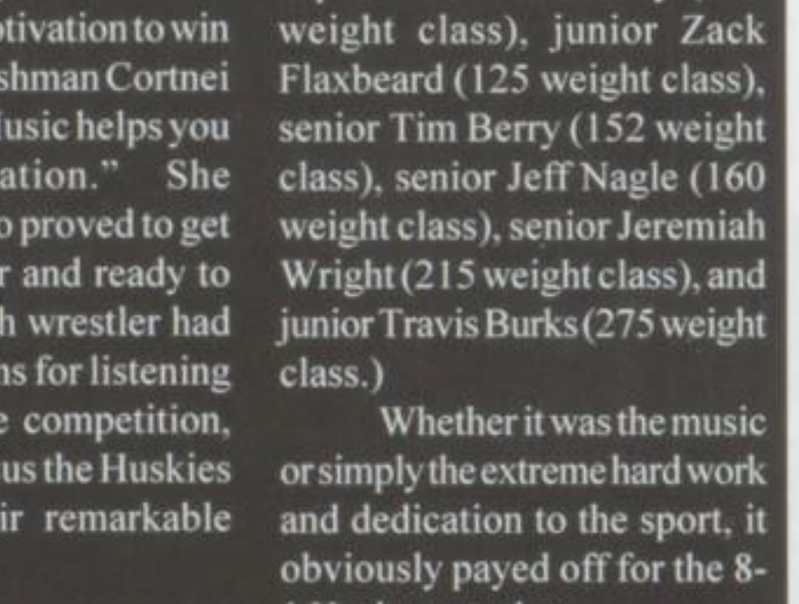
by Rachel Valdez

He quietly sits, trying desperately to concentrate on the never-ending bus ride to the opposing school. Once he gets there, the tension just begins to mount. He then gets suited up and goes in for his first round, apprehensive with the fear of destroying the Husky's nearly flawless record in one fatal move. The perfect opportunity for a well-placed "cradle" presents itself. As the Husky wrestler stealthily lunges in for the pin, a familiar tune rushes through his head...

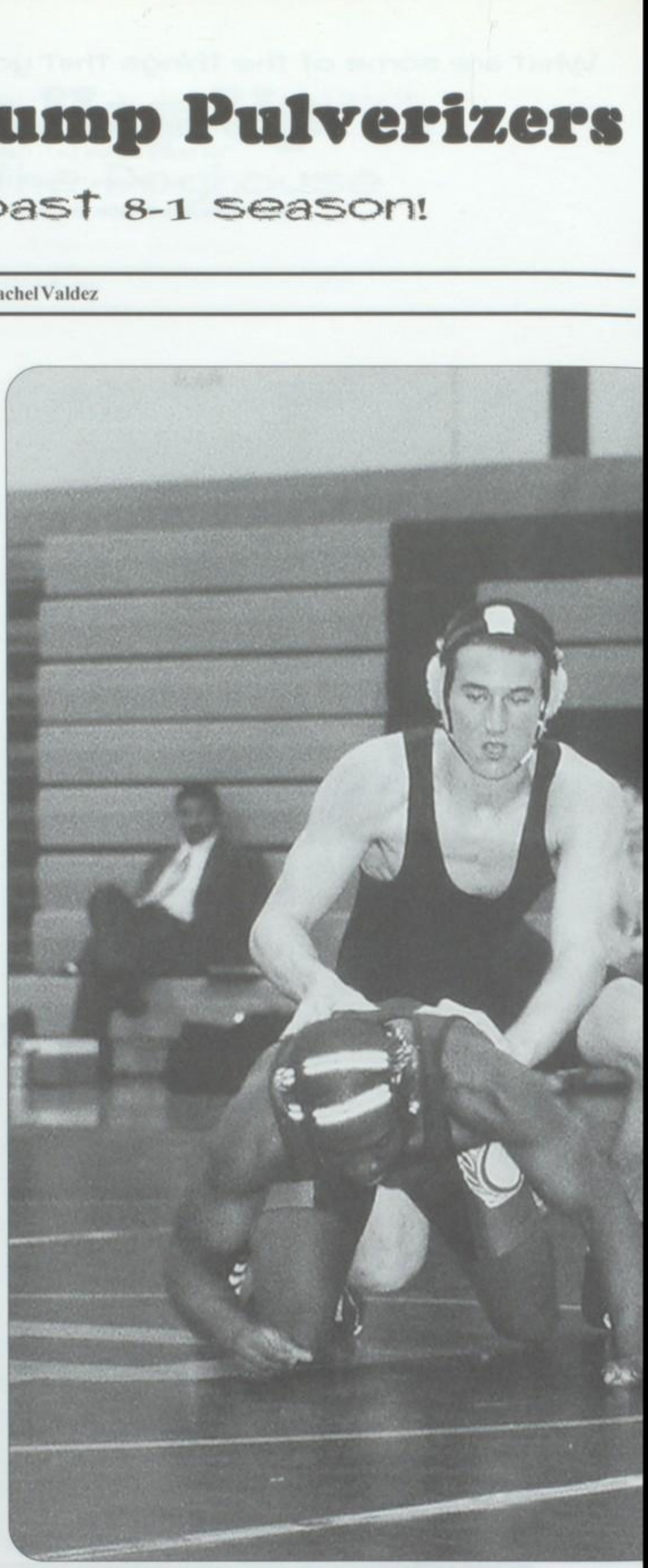
"Will the real Slim Shady please stand up, please stand up, please stand up?" This song resounded in senior Jeff Nagle's head as he was wrestling. He said he listened to Eminem right before he wrestled for "motivation to win the match." Freshman Cortnei Mudge said, "Music helps you with concentration." She added that it also proved to get the team "hyper and ready to compete." Each wrestler had their own reasons for listening to music before competition, but it helped focus the Huskies to achieve their remarkable season.

This, however, was only a small part of what led the Huskies to achieve their nearly flawless record. Other factors such as workout difficulty, determination, atheltic ability, and overall physique led to this. All season, it was important for the wrestlers to keep not only their bodies, but also their minds sharp to the competition. This was especially noticable in senior Josh McGrotty. He not only made it to state in the 125 lb. weight class, but also had the most wins over a four year period at Ritenour, breaking the school record. His record stands at 137 wins to 21 losses, with 93 wins coming from pins. Other state qualifiers include sophomore Chris Berry (112 weight class), junior Zack Flaxbeard (125 weight class), senior Tim Berry (152 weight class), senior Jeff Nagle (160 weight class), senior Jeremiah Wright (215 weight class), and junior Travis Burks (275 weight class.)

Whether it was the music or simply the extreme hard work and dedication to the sport, it obviously payed off for the 8-1 Husky wrestlers.



McCluer North is a tough team. Sophmore Meggan Hunott helped lead the JV wrestlers to a victory when she defeated Kory Kearn.



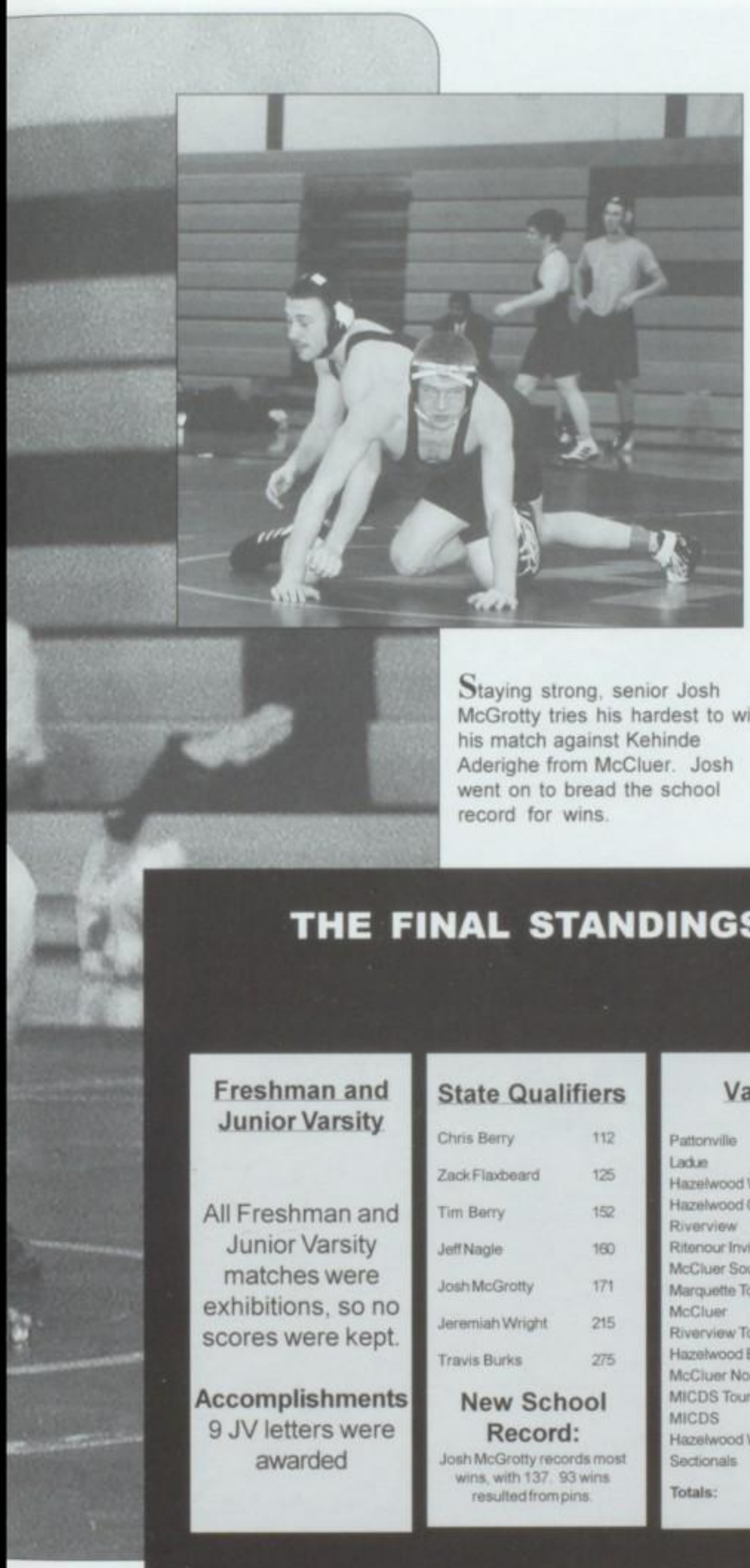
What kinds of music do you think would give you "bad luck" before you compete?

"Rap, because it would tense up your muscles right before you wrestle." - Derrick Snow, 9th grade

"Any kind of jazz or country would mess me up." - Jeff Nagle, 12th grade

"Classical would completely mess me up." - Josh McGrotty, 12th grade

"Classical, techno, and smooth jazz would be really bad." - Christopher Berry, 10th grade



After a three point near fall, senior Tim Berry and his McCluer opponent, Ryan Smirk, start back at the center of the mat.

Staying strong, senior Josh McGrotty tries his hardest to win his match against Kehinde Aderighe from McCluer. Josh went on to bread the school record for wins.

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Freshman and Junior Varsity

All Freshman and Junior Varsity matches were exhibitions, so no scores were kept.

Accomplishments
9 JV letters were awarded

State Qualifiers

Chris Berry	112
Zack Flaxbeard	125
Tim Berry	152
Jeff Nagle	160
Josh McGrotty	171
Jeremiah Wright	215
Travis Burks	275

New School Record:
Josh McGrotty records most wins, with 137. 93 wins resulted from pins.

Varsity

Pattonville	44-30
Ladue	69-9
Hazelwood W. Tourney	1st Place
Hazelwood Central	37-32
Riverview	51-18
Ritenour Invitational	2nd Place
McCluer South	1st Place
Marquette Tourney	3rd Place
McCluer	66-65
Riverview Tourney	2nd Place
Hazelwood East	48-27
McCluer North	30-44
MICDS Tourney	2nd Place
MICDS	46-29
Hazelwood W.	51-21
Sectionals	Champions
Totals:	**8-1**

Going for the pin, freshman Aaron Mitchell wrestles Mike Lane from McCluer. Freshman exhibition matches helped to prepare the future Varsity wrestlers.

FRESHMEN. *Front Row:* Jacob Boehm, Thomas Candela, Aaron Mitchell, Zach McFarland, Cameron Nagle. *Second Row:* Paul Nator, Antonio Atkins, Derrick Snow, Cortnei Mudge.

VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY. *Front Row:* Abe Dhanani, Andrew Milton, Matt Wilson, John Brown, Jared Carter, Jeremy Conner, Meggan Hunot. *Second Row:* John Kramer, Drew Ford, Donny Freseman, Terry Parker, Tyler Bollman, Ahmad Elmashhady, Cerone Baker. *Third Row:* Chris Frambers, Chris Berry, Dan Kassing, Kyle Shepard, DJ Dyson, Darrion Landrum, Wes McFarland, Zack Flaxbeard, Dan Freeman. *Back Row:* Jeff Nagle, Tim Berry, Jeremiah Wright, Cameron Howard, Josh McGrotty, Travis Burks

Learning The Value

Practice Makes Perfect

by Ashley Scott

All eyes on them…their hearts pounding…their smiles shining from ear to ear…the girls take their beginning positions. This was how the Rhythmettes felt when they attended the Lindbergh dance competition. Shanicia Goston, a junior, said, "I felt nervous, but excited and confident all at the same time." All that was going through her head was: "I hope that we win!"

Both squads practiced constantly. Whether morning or night, weekend or weekday, tired or not, the girls knew that practice was essential. They practiced for long hours, mostly at their dance studio Best Talent Center. The week before the competition, the girls practiced "every day for sometimes four or more hours at a time," said Shanicia.

On December 4, 2004, the girls headed to Lindbergh High School to perform. Ashley Smith said, "I didn't think we were going to do as well as we did because of last year's outcome. But we did!" The Junior Varsity Rhythmettes received Second Place for Hip-Hop Routine, and the Varsity squad received First Place for Pom Routine *and* won the Showmanship plaque. The girls were excited about the results and pleased with their performance.

Aside from the competition, the Rhythmettes had numerous achievements. For example, the squad participated in a dance camp held at BTC that began in June and went through the end of July. Chantal Ambrose thought the camp helped out a lot: "It was cool, and I really liked the dances that we learned. It gave us the techniques of hip hop that we needed." Dancing during the halftimes of football and basketball games required more routines that had to be practiced and perfected. "I loved performing at the games because I always like to dance and I like to perform in front of other people," said Tiffany Rodgers.

While improving individually as the year went on, the girls had to use teamwork and dedication to succeed. In addition, according to Amber Taber, they learned the true value of "practice makes perfect."

The Varsity Rhythmettes march to the beat of the band during the Homecoming Parade on September 19. Spanning two seasons, the squad performed scores more times to perfect their moves.

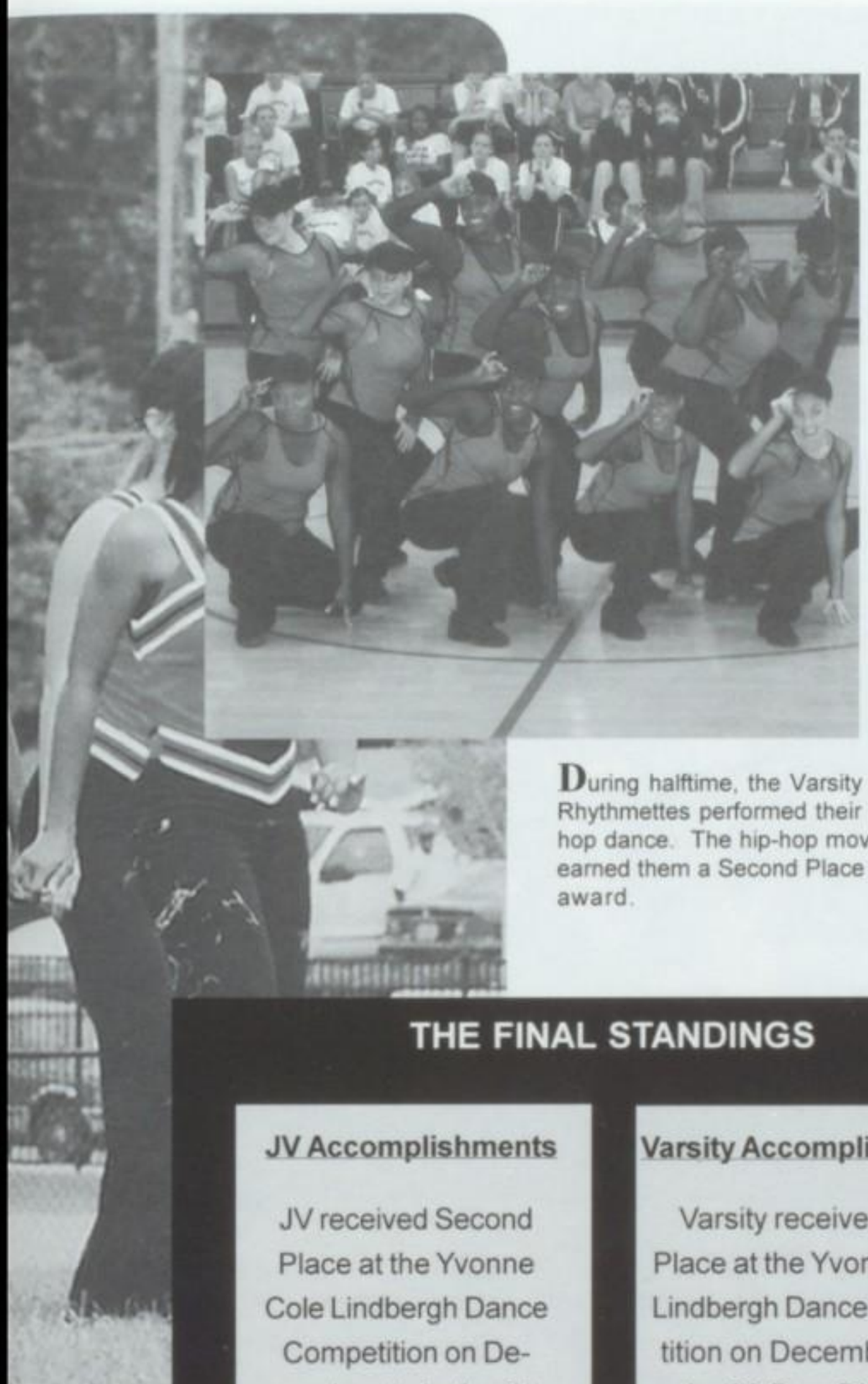
What do you like best about being a Rhythmette?

"It's a lot of fun, and I've been performing since I was really young. It gives me a chance to show it off."--Rachel Rice, 9th grade

"I love the team bonds; someone on the team can always make me laugh." --Courtney Smith, 9th grade

"I like the competition because I liked working hard."--Ashley Horton, 9th grade

"It's fun dancing with all the girls because all the girls on the squad are fun to be around." --Bernadetta James, 11th grade



At the annual Lindbergh High School dance competition, the Varsity Rhythmettes received a first place trophy for their pom dance and a plaque for best showmanship.

During halftime, the Varsity Rhythmettes performed their hip-hop dance. The hip-hop moves earned them a Second Place award.

THE FINAL STANDINGS

JV Accomplishments

JV received Second Place at the Yvonne Cole Lindbergh Dance Competition on December 4, in the 2A Hip-Hop Division.

Varsity Accomplishments

Varsity received First Place at the Yvonne Cole Lindbergh Dance Competition on December 4, in the 2A Pom Division. Varsity also received the Best Showmanship Award at the Yvonne Cole Lindbergh Dance Competition on December 4.

Varsity. *Front Row:* Ajah Thomas, Shanicia Goston, Ashley Smith. *Second Row:* Chantal Ambrose, Amber Taber, Kimberly Kellum. *Back Row:* Aliyyah Green, Rachel Rice, Agatha Carr, Bernadette James.

JV. *Front Row:* Amber Martin. *Second Row:* Tachina Fair, Courtney Smith, Ashley Horton. *Back Row:* Dearra Johnson, Amanda Sanders, Tiffany Rodgers, Kimberly Blanke.

During Black and Orange Day, the Varsity and JV Rhythmettes march around the track along with the other fall sports teams. Uniformity helped earn the Rhythmettes their awards.

Leading the masses. . .

Spirit takes work

by Tonia O'Neal

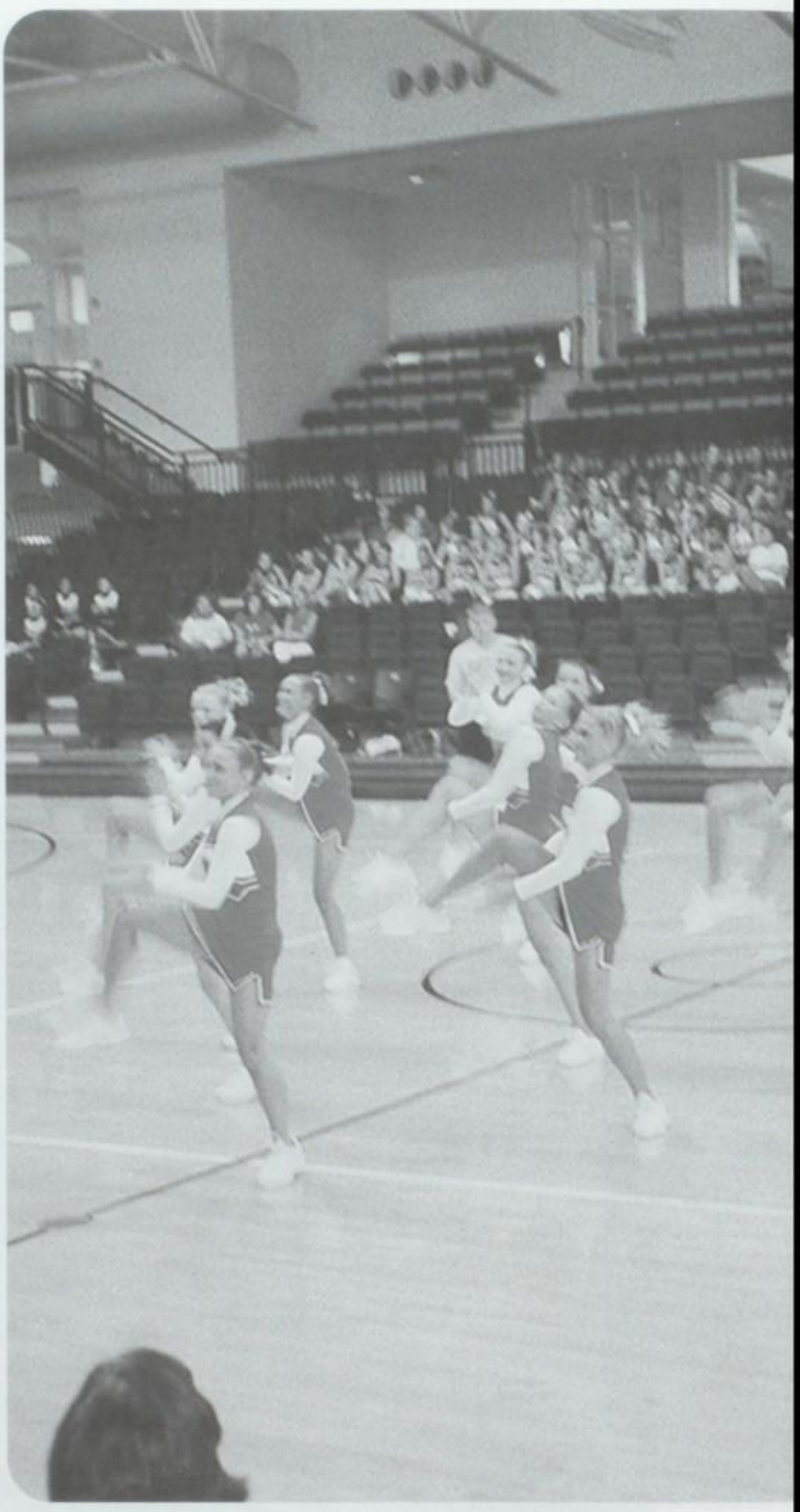
Cheerleaders proved that having school spirit took more than an upbeat and fearless attitude. It took practice and determination.

Cheerleading involved more than attending games, cheering on the team, a few practices, and regionals. Freshman Casey Sanborn explained, "It takes a lot of physical work; we are always doing stretches and using our muscles." Stretches and giving muscles a workout was not the only labor they went through.

Senior Jessica Gischer reflected on the physical aspects of having school spirit. "It takes more physical work than most people would expect. We actually lift people...it's crazy!" Cheerleading did not stop with physical work, either. There was a lot of mental strategy involved, as well. "Cheerleading takes a lot of skill; we have to memorize several routines, while keeping our grades up, and still maintain our spirit,". junior Lindsey Griffith commented. Casey Sanborn also made a few comments about personality traits needed by cheerleaders, "I have a lot of spunk, and cheerleaders have to have that."

Being determined played a big roll in the success the squad had. Sophomore Heather Simpson stated her feelings about her mentor. "Our coach has high expectations of us, and we want to make her happy. Plus, my family makes me feel like I can do anything!" Family and the drive to please the coach was not the only thing giving our cheerleaders motivation. Lindsey Griffith stated, "Whenever we go to perform, and I hear to cheering of the students, it motivates me to do my best."

Even with all the support and skill that cheerleaders had, they still got nervous. Lindsey Griffith said, "I get nervous when I'm backspotting and a flyer falls. If she kicks out the bases, I have to catch her all by myself."



During halftime at a football game, the cheerleaders put on a show. This gave them a chance to show their school spirit. Entertaining the crowds with acrobatic routines was a Husky cheerleader favorite.

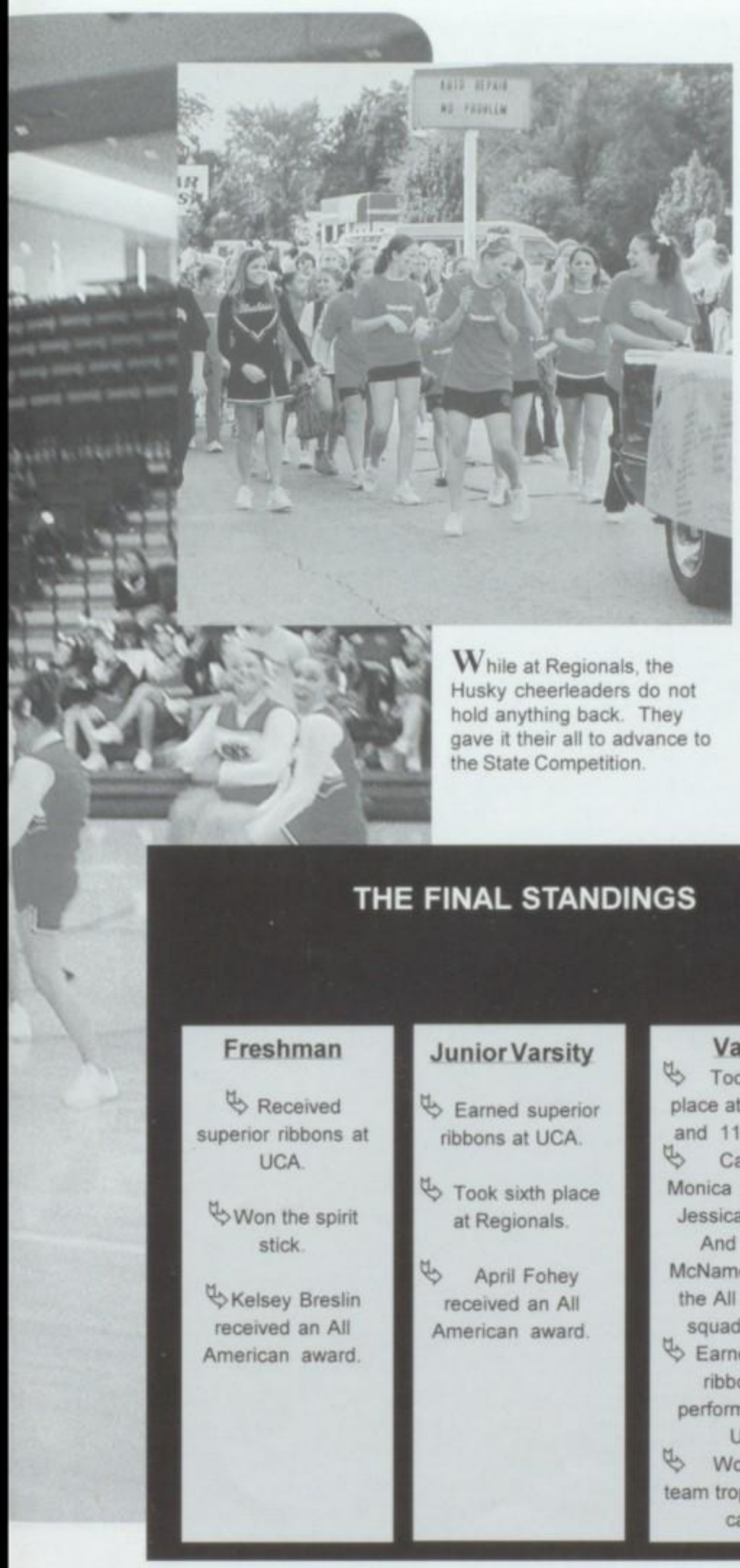
What is one sport that is not offered at Ritenour that you wish we had?

"I would probably say tumbling or gymnastics. I always liked to do that when I was younger, and I wish I still could." -- Amanda Klenke, 9th grade

"I'm not sure, because Ritenour offers a lot of sports." --Kristen Rehagen, 9th grade

"I think all sports should have equal opportunity. So I feel that football for girls should be added." --Cara Riley, 12th grade

"I like the sports offered at Ritenour. I really would not add any." --April Fohey, 10th grade



The cheerleaders took part in the homecoming parade to show the community their school spirit. Freshman, Junior Varsity, and Varsity all took part in this event.

While at Regionals, the Husky cheerleaders do not hold anything back. They gave it their all to advance to the State Competition.

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Freshman

- Received superior ribbons at UCA.
- Won the spirit stick.
- Kelsey Breslin received an All American award.

Junior Varsity

- Earned superior ribbons at UCA.
- Took sixth place at Regionals.
- April Fohey received an All American award.

Varsity

- Took second place at Regionals and 11th at State.
- Cara Riley, Monica Buckowitz, Jessica Gischer, And Rachel McNamee all made the All American squad at UCA.
- Earned superior ribbons for performances at UCA.
- Won the top team trophy at UCA camp.

Freshmen. *Front Row:* Tasha Gadomski, Angie Clarke, Kelsey Breslin, Michaela Phillips. *Second Row:* Teresa Geno, Katrina Harris, Tiffany Fancher, Brittany Tinnin. *Back Row:* Alyssa Dunsing, Elizabeth Donnelly, Erin Verble, Jacqueline Ridenour, Amanda Klenke.

Junior Varsity. *Front Row:* Amber Herold, Wendy Alletag, Casey Sanborn, Kristen Rehagen, April Fohey. *Second Row:* Lindsey Goodall, Heather Young, Heather Simpson, Jessica Daniel. *Back Row:* Aimee Moore, Lindsey Griffith, Aimee Miller, Amanda McGee, Nicole Chunn.

Varsity. *Front Row:* Becky Coleman, Serafina Adams, Rachel McNamee, Monica Buckowitz, Kristy Johnson. *Second Row:* Emily Baker, Jessica Gischer, Cara Riley, Tessa Wilson, Ashley Tinnin, Ashley Scott. *Back Row:* Laruen Stein, Alison Greco, Lindsey Buxman, Nicole Verble, Megan Reifsteck.

Renovation

Taking it a step further

by Chesha Bizan

Flag Corps has come a long way in the past ten years. In 1995, Karen Lehman became the new sponsor for the Corps and the squad competed in the Christmas Parade and placed third, and in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, where they placed first. This year the Flag Corps had a new sponsor, Hilary Van Hooke, a teacher at Ritenour Middle, and competed in the Thanksgiving parade along with the band. Though Flag Corps's general concept has remained the same as that of ten years ago, the squad was made fresh. Flag Corps decided to refurbish the whole idea behind the "flags."

From new sponsors to new routines, the Flag Corps decided to make the old, new. Instead of the same old "flags" used every year, the team expanded in more ways than one. Not only were new flags been purchased, but so were rifles, sabers, ribbons, and colorful uniforms. Captain, senior Ashley Morris, admitted, "We finally realized there were other things out there," and the team decided to spice up what had seemed to be getting a little tedious.

Another very different addition occurred in the squad this year. For the first time in Ritenour history, a male student, freshman Andrew Lampe, was a member of the squad. Christina Krug, a new freshman on the squad, stated, "He's my best friend. He works harder than the rest of us."

Not only did fellow Flag Corps members have good things to say about him but Andrew optimistically stated, "More people congratulate me than say bad things". The entire student body had a bright outlook on the new addition to the Flag Corps.

The renovation was very constructive and Flag Corps will continue to bud and keep an upbeat attitude. Thanks to the direction of Ashley Morris and Hilary Van Hooke, Flag Corps turned it around and renewed the view of the squad.

At Orange and Black Day, the flag squad leads the parade of athletes around the track. The parade marked the beginning of performances for them.

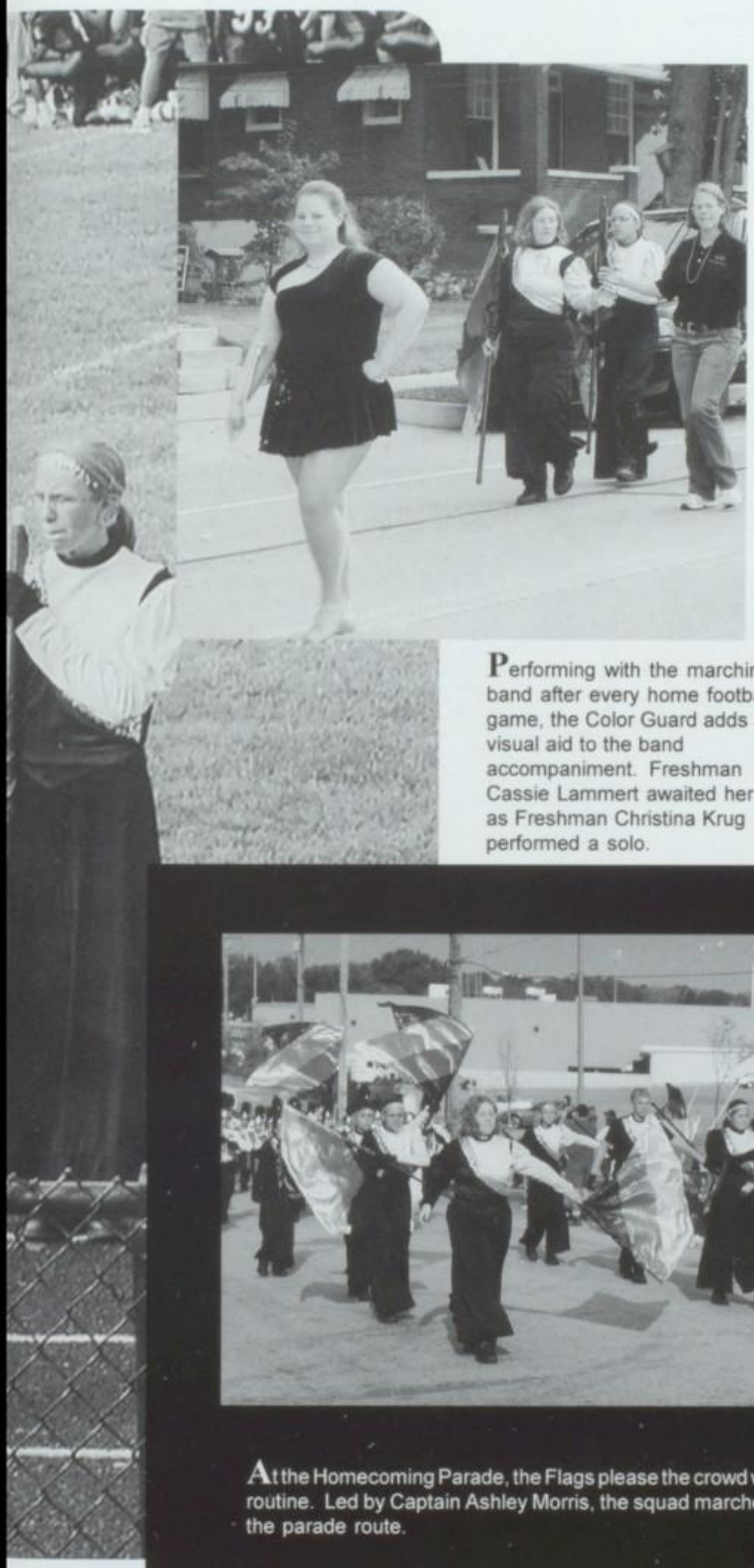
What made you decide to join the squad?

"It looked fun, and my friends talked me into it." Bobby Hiltibidal, 10th grade

"Mrs. Van Hooke was my band teacher and she said it would be fun." Cassie Lammert, 9th grade

"I've been doing it since I was a kid, and my cousin did it, too." Andrew Lampe, 9th grade

"The band director from Ritenour Middle School is the sponsor." Christina Krug, 9th grade



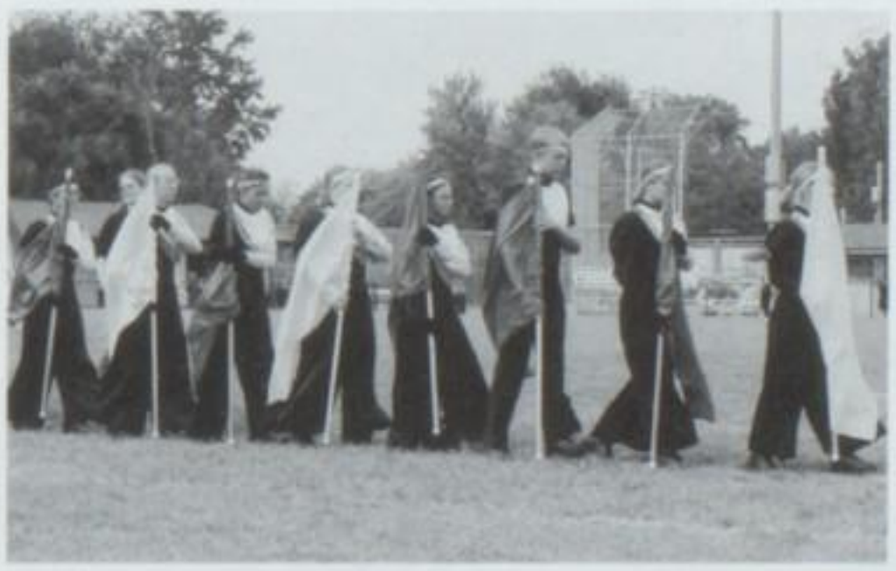
Leading the Homecoming Parade, twirler Ashley Crook, a Senior, enjoys her last parade. Members of the Flag Squad including Ashley Morris, Kim Vaughn, and coach Van-Hooke followed closely behind.

Performing with the marching band after every home football game, the Color Guard adds a visual aid to the band accompaniment. Freshman Cassie Lammert awaited her turn as Freshman Christina Krug performed a solo.

At the Homecoming Parade, the Flags please the crowd with their routine. Led by Captain Ashley Morris, the squad marched along the parade route.

FLAG CORPS. *Front Row*: Ashley Crook. *Second Row*: Bobby Hitibidal, Kim Vaughn, Libby Thomas, Cassie Lammert. *Third Row*: Christina Krug, Natalie Olive, Sam Thayer. *Fourth Row*: Ashley Morris, Carly Larson. *Back Row*: Andrew Lampe.

Accompaning the band, the Color Guard stands at attention as the National Anthem is played before every football game. Traditionally, the spectators also stand silently during the performance.



After performing to the music of Earth, Wind, and Fire, the squad files off the field. The squad coordinated a routine for the half-time performance of every game.

In Decency

Helping the Community with Open Arms

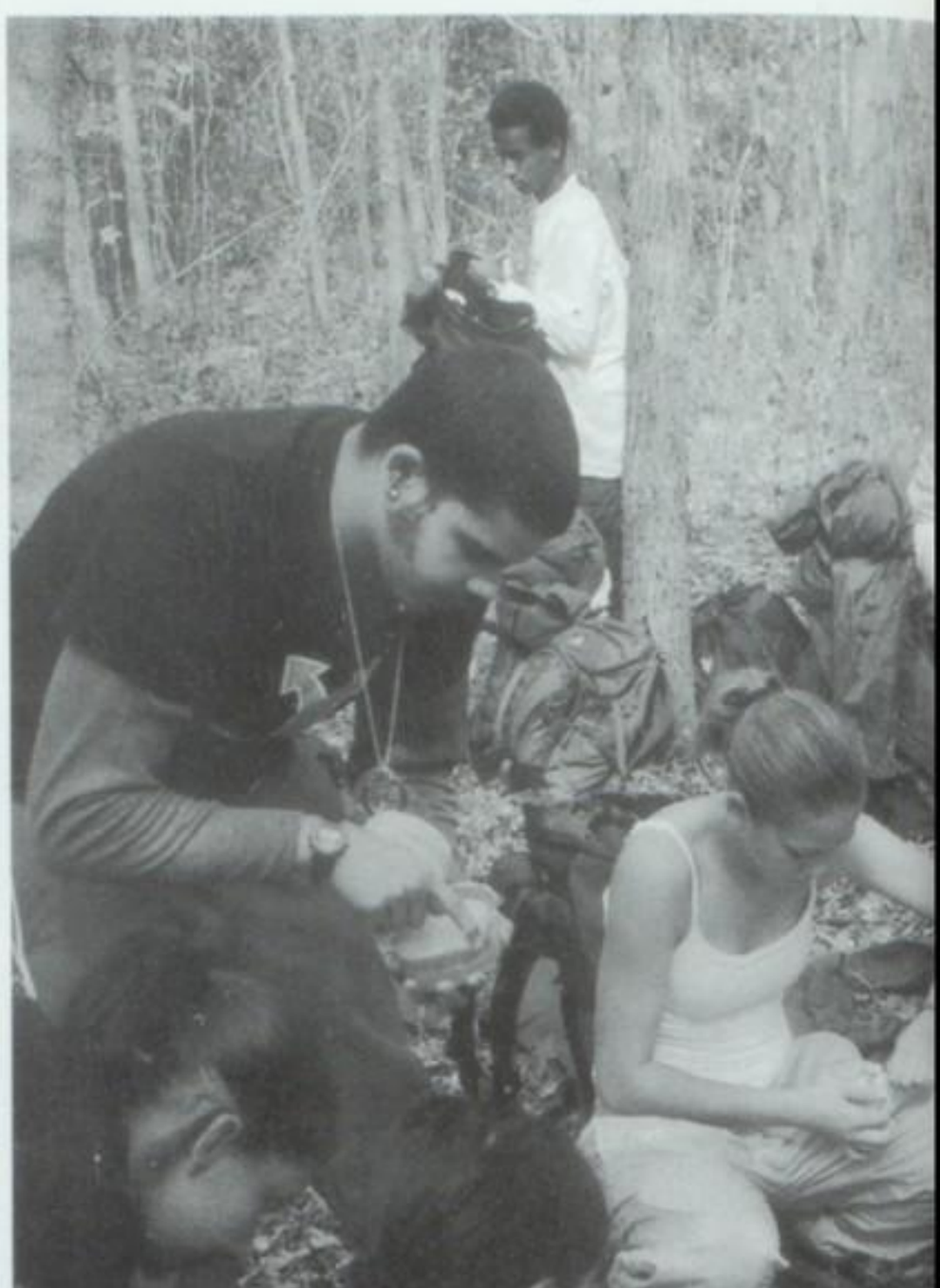
by Cortney Dollens and Rachel Valdez

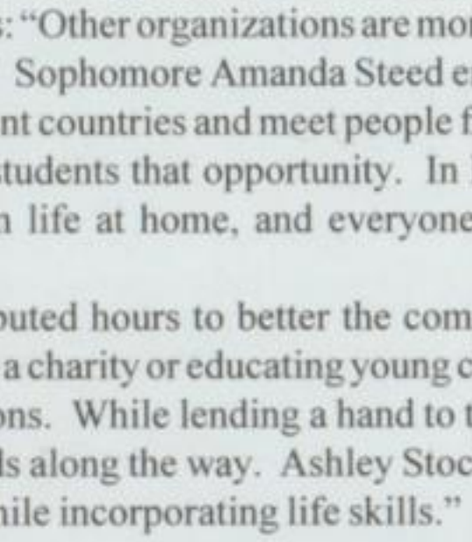
Leaf raking: 8 hours. Raising money for various causes: 22 hours. Collecting cans: 8 hours. Volunteering at local shelters and senior living facilities: 13 hours. The feeling that you get from making your community a better place: priceless. Clubs and organizations, no matter what their specific cause, generally focused on improving the school and the surrounding community. Students dedicated countless hours to community service, proving that they really were "decent."

Organizations took part in numerous services that benefited the community, inside and outside of the school. In FCCLA, Family Career Community Leaders of America, students helped with recycling around the school and making dolls for children in hospitals. In addition to those activities, FCCLA members visited elementary school children to educate them on the dangers of strangers. The students in National Honor Society dedicated much of their time to helping others. They participated in "Big Brother, Big Sister" at Kratz Elementary school. A handful of children stayed after school to play games, create works of art, and enjoy snack time with the NHS members. Members enjoyed the activity because not only did it benefit the children, but themselves, as well. Senior Serafina Adams stated, "I love going because I want to be an elementary school teacher, and it will help me understand kids better." Another club whose goal was to help others was AFS, or American Foreign Studies. AFS's main agenda was to help guide the foreign exchange students feel welcome to the school. In Leadership and Student Council, students worked to raise money for various charities, especially for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. The money raised went to grant the wish of an ill child. Fundraisers conducted to raise money for the organization included the paper chain war, selling spirit bracelets, and putting on the second annual Glow Dance.

Although every organization was different, they all worked to make a change. Junior Alex Young commented on what made Leadership different from other organizations: "Other organizations are more individualized, but we bring everyone together." Sophomore Amanda Steed enjoyed AFS because they "get to learn about different countries and meet people from different countries." Few other clubs allowed students that opportunity. In FCCLA, senior Ashley Stock replied, "We focus on life at home, and everyone can use the experiences for themselves."

Every club contributed hours to better the community and school. Whether through raising money for a charity or educating young children, students showed their decency through their actions. While lending a hand to the community, these students also managed to make friends along the way. Ashley Stock concluded, "It is possible to have fun and make friends while incorporating life skills."





Exercising their vocals, sophomores Angela Hoang and Kylee Raney follow the direction of choir teacher Dr. Bell. The choir students spent hours inside and outside of school preparing for numerous concerts.

Disc jockeying on the airwaves, senior Dan Hollis works in the radio station. The radio crew announced upcoming events before, during, and after school, along with commentary throughout the day.

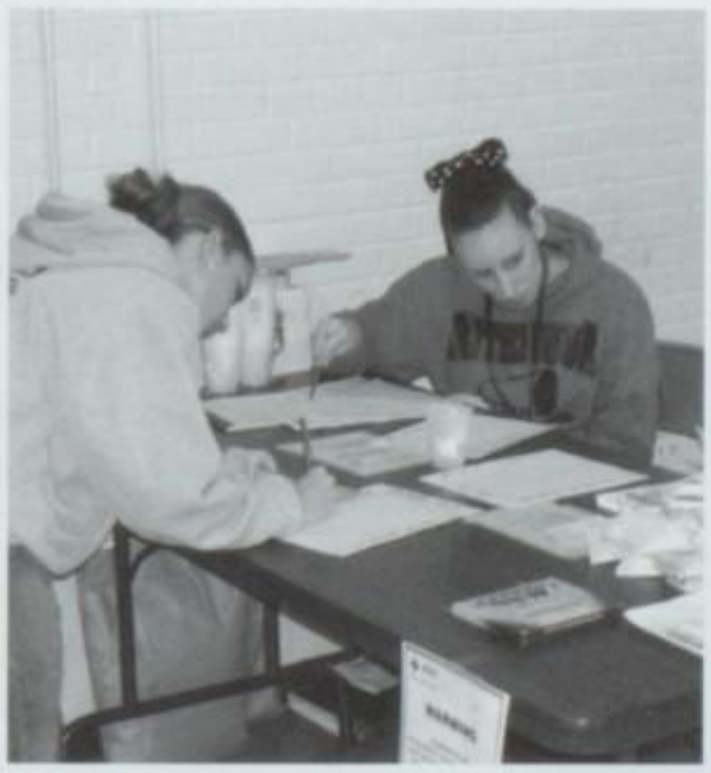
Walking through the Homecoming parade, AFS advertises for their club. Each sign represented the different nationalities of the members in the group.

"I like it because my church doesn't have a youth group and in FCA, I get to hang out with other kids my age and talk about real-life issues and how to deal with them."
- April Collins, 10th grade
FCA

"I like the community involvement and helping with the blood drive. In Big Brothers/Big Sisters, we get to talk to and play with young kids. They really look up to us as big brothers and sisters."
-Harsh Gupta, 12th grade
NHS

"I like the other people in French Club and their attitudes. We have a lot of fun. It gives me something extra to do after school."
-Kevin Jones, 11th grade
French Club

Taking a break from hiking, the Ritenour Cardinal Ordinates (RCO) 2 group nourishes their bodies with refreshments taken along on the hike. The RCO 2 students went on this hiking trip to learn outdoor leadership skills.



Volunteering his time for the Drama department, junior Charles Lee constructs scenery for the fall play. Charles Lee's contributions benefited all of the community who saw the play, Fools.

Greeting people at the door, NHS member and senior Becky Coleman sits as the front table at the Blood Drive. Becky Coleman signed the donors in and guided them to the first station.

Performing at a football game for halftime, sophomore Bobby Hiltibidal waits for her part in the routine. The Flag Squad followed specific routines for their performances to keep the crowd entertained.

Fumbles and Follies...

Making mistakes through music...

by Nicole Walker and Molly Jennings

The conductor walked to the podium. The students sat perfectly straight. The director approached the stage. As the conductor raised his arms, the students prepared to perform. With one final word of good luck and a joke, the fugleman gave students a preparatory beat, which allowed everyone to breathe. Finally, sweet sounds of music began to fill the air.

Staying focused on the music, band director Mr. Haux concentrated on cueing sections to come in and showing dynamics: "I am in a tunnel vision. I get in the zone." The song wound down to its final notes. The conductor cut off—and—SQUAWK!

More than one band student experienced this scenario. Mr. Haux encouraged students to make their blunders loud and clear in class; he hoped this would prevent mishaps from happening during a concert. Nevertheless, mistakes happened, and they always seemed louder and worse during a concert than in rehearsal. Mr. Haux stated that slip-ups were "part of performing" and hoped students "would learn from their mistakes."

One whom was familiar with mistakes was freshman Jessie Salamone. She played the clarinet for three years and was in Symphonic Band. Jessie experienced a squawking mishap during one of her eighth grade concerts. She reminisced about the experience: "We played this song. It ended suddenly and I played a note really loud." Consequently from Jessie's mistake, she became more attentive to the music.

Senior Josh Daly was a member of Chamber Winds, Concert Band, and Symphonic Band. This baritone player and seven-year percussionist accidently exposed his tympani solo early in one high school concert. Since Josh's solo ended the piece of music, he covered for his mistake by "playing over and over and louder and louder until the end of the song." Band taught Josh to be creative. The creativity he learned throughout band class helped him to hide the mistakes he made.

Sophomore Colt Beck played the saxophone for five years and was in both Symphonic Band and Jazz Band. While participating in the ensembles, Colt learned expressions such as, "when in doubt, pull out" and "park and blow." "When in doubt, pull out" refers to tuning. When tuning, students were generally sharp. To combat the problem, band members pulled certain joints out a little bit. The second expression, "park and blow" implies a situation when students stand in one spot and play. The expression was most commonly used during Marching Band season. Marching Band members did a "park and blow" performance during Orange and Black Day when they stood on the track and played a variety of music. The musical knowledge Colt ascertained allowed him to add "soul" to his music. Colt learned time management and acquired confidence while playing. "My skills are so mad that no one ever notices my mistakes," he said.

Concert Band member, freshman Ryan Pryor played the bass clarinet. At a winter concert he lost his concentration while playing and he squeaked. Ryan then learned that "concentration" was essential to the class. Despite his mistake, Ryan also learned, "not to squeak."

continued on next page

Concert Band. *Listed Alphabetically:* Donnell Allen, Emily Baker, Devin Barber, Dyimon Bastien, Joe Bedwell, Erica Beger, Amy Berry, Jeff Burks, Brittney Carver, Josh Daly, Sean Dolan, Heather Guill, Chelsea Hodapp, John Hodge, Molly Jennings, Kenessa Johnson, Tom Keeven, Cassie Lammert, Felicia Luensmann, Edward McClendon, Tim McEntire, Zach McFarland, Matt Miller, Robert Mills, Tony Moss, Isaiah Okohson-Reb, Natalie Olive, Joshua Peters, Kelsey Pritchett, Ryan Pryor, Lillian Puder, Nathan Pupillo, Shannan Roberts, Lydia Rodenberg, David Sabin, Tomi Sale, Lara Schueller, Bradley Schwartz, David Shoults, Randy Smith, Tiffany Stevens, Jason Sumner, Laquita Tenner, Samantha Thayer, Libby Thomas, William Whiteside, Abby Wildgrube, Matt Wilson.

Jazz Band. *Listed Alphabetically:* Todd Allen Colt Beck Jacob Boehm, April Collins, Brandon Hamilton, Colleen Kelly, Marty Little, Tim Meyers, Jason Moeller, Kim Moeller, Kennedy Moore, Russell Morrissey, Tony Moss, Cody Perkins, Kyle Pritchett, Nick Richardson, Adam Shoults, David Shoults, Kassie Stillman, Michael Stokes, Amanda Thomas. Director: Mr. Haux

After a half an hour of warming up, the band finally gets into practicing their music. The brass section of the symphonic band focused instantly on their music as they practiced their song "Black Granite III."

Symphonic Band. *Listed Alphabetically:* Todd Allen, Colt Beck, Erica Beger, Jacob Boehm, Billy Boner, Ginny Both, Olia Bronitsky, Erin Carlson, Kayla Cattage, April Collins, Lindsay Cranmer, Danielle Criswell, Alan Crook, Josh Daly, Cortney Dollens, Chuck Dunn, Joni Geil, Steven Gray, Brandon Hamilton, Austin Horton, Katie Jennings, Molly Jennings, Kim Kellum, Colleen Kelly, Christina Krug, Garrett Lacy, A.J. Lampe, Emily Lansche, Jon Lewis, Marty Little, Dan Maltman, Tiffany Marsh, Tim Meyers, Matt Miller, Jason Moeller, Kim Moeller, Russsell Morrissey, Tony Moss, Amanda Necker, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Cody Perkins, Megan Reifsteck, Nick Richardson, Tamia Robinson, Jessie Salamone, Kim Schmidt, Adam Shoults, David Shoults, Lauren Stein, Kassie Stillman, Michael Stokes, Amanda Thomas, Dan Uko, Katie Wilkes, Alex Young, Brad Young

1. During Black and Orange day, the marching band performs for the crowd giving them a preview of the up and coming season. Members practiced daily after school to prepare for the Friday night football games and various parades. 2. The marching band participated in parades such as the homecoming parade and the Thanksgiving parade in downtown St. Louis. Sophomore Tim Meyers and seniors Kim Schmidtt, Amanda Necker, and Jason Moeller practiced with the rest of the band, marching around the vicinity to prepare for such events. 3. During Marching Band season, "park and blow" performances can be seen when the Marching Band tours the elementary and middle schools and at Orange and Black Day. Clarinet players Jacob Boehm, Olia Bronitsky, Erin Carlson, and Amanda Thomas played the song "Domino" at the annual Black and Orange Day. 4. Standing in attention, Saxophonist Cody Perkins, Flutist Jason Moeller, and Trombonist Dan Uko follow the commands of Drum Majors Erica Beger and Kassie Stillman. During band camp, members learned commands to march together as one. 5. During Symphonic Band, Mr. Haux works difficult sections, helping the band put the music together so they sound like one. He expected students to come to class with all the basics notes and rhythms prepared. 6. The low brass provide members with the beat and were responsible for providing the tempo of a song. 7. Bassoon players Adam Shoults and Tiffany Marsh, Tenor Saxaphonist Colt Beck and Clarinetist Katie Jennings concentrate on sight reading a new piece of music. Sight reading was a skill students frequently practiced to help prepare them for band contest.

...Tuning Personalities...

...Students Better themselves through Music...

by Nicole Walker and Molly Jennings

Another branch of the school's music department includes the orchestra. Orchestra consisted of all the students who played string instruments.

Born into a family of musicians, freshman Evan Antoine had been playing the cello since he was three years old. "My parents are both musicians. My mom plays the piano and my dad plays the cello. They are the ones who got me started."

For others, the option was a choice strictly of their own. "I decided to start playing the violin in the sixth grade… I started playing in the third grade and I quit. By sixth grade, I decided I wanted to continue again," said sophomore Allison Pierce.

The orchestra practiced all year long to prepare for their performances that were done in the winter, fall, and spring at the high school, and visits to the elementary and middle schools they took in the fall. In addition to these performances, the orchestra also toured. Their tour schedule included a Christmas concert at Overland Baptist Church and a spring concert at the University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. "The trips we go on are a lot of fun," said Allison. "They are my favorite part of being in orchestra. You get to hang out with your friends and meet new people."

For some students, orchestra was about much more than just the music. Senior Daniel Hollis said, "Orchestra has helped me overcome my lack of confidence in myself, and being with a teacher that I can confide in helps me when I am troubled. One concert in particular I had to stand up with my fellow classmates and play for the audience. We did well, and I made my parents proud. Since then, I have played more enthusiastically at concerts and played solos for people. I do not plan on having a future in music, but I will definitely not give up."

For Evan, "Music has helped me be a stronger person, kept me out of trouble, and helped me be a better student because it has taught me patience and responsibility. I definitely want to continue being involved with music after high school, but I am not sure how yet."

Aside from helping them improve personally, the members of the orchestra have achieved many goals musically, as well. "I have learned to play so many hard songs that I never thought I would ever be able to play," said Allison.

However, despite all of the practice, playing their instrument can still be a challenge for the members of the orchestra. "Playing 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star' was the hardest song I ever had to learn because it was the first song I ever played," laughed Evan.

"'The Devil Went Down to Georgia' was the hardest song I ever had to play," said Daniel. "It is fast and my pinky finger is crooked, but, ironically enough, it was the song that fueled my ambition to play the violin."

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Chamber Orchestra. Isaura Da Rosa, Donald Barbiea, Meggan Hunott, Allison Pierce, Lauren Richter, Tiara Huntington, Lindsey Cantu, Michelle Turner, Jessica Coleman, Elizabeth Duffin, Charles Pleasant, Arnold Bratton, Kennedy Moore, Patrick Mcvicker, Heather Roush, Casey McGowan, Kathleen Brown, Mark Souders, Jessica Daniel, Evan Antoine.

Symphony Orchestra. Isaura Da Rosa, Je'taun Lavette, Heather Roush, Courtney Hodgkins, Anthony Clayton, Jason Eickoff, Kiarra Burks, Amanda Asbrock, Terry Hardieway, Rosemary Bond, Aliyyah Greene, William Smith, Sarah Dettmer, Candice Owens, Mauri Roberts, Andrea Vanmeter, Brittane Smotherman, Ashley Jones, Horace Kemp, Emily Moruzzi, Sarah Cooley, Tessa Wilson, Helen Moore, Ashley Roddy, Angela Roody, Shannon Keeton, Daniel Hollis, Heather Simpson, Megan Jones, Nicole Mcentire, Mark Souders.

Symphonia. Jaazeil Coleman, Blake Allen, Brannon Griffith, Brittane Smotherman, Ashley Roddy, Ashleigh Mcdougald, Emily Howard, Isaura Da Rosa, Joshua Da Rosa, Larryandrew Tubbs, Nancy Hernandez, Tiffany Throgmorton, Brandon Mitchell, Chelsey Baliva, Justin Hardy, Rachel Rodenberg, Kimberly Blanke, Candice Owens, Amanda Sanders, Antonio Cole, Dwuana Bradley, Angela Roddy, Meaghan Taylor, Joshua Goldacker, Christopher Mattingly, Andrew Heil.

Orchestra. *Front Row:* Courtney Hodgkins, Andrea Vanmeter, Heather Simpson, Candice Owens, Amanda Asbrock, William Smith. *Back Row:* Sam Kemp, Rosie Bond, Marissa Moore, Sarah Cooley, Andy Hughes, Terry Hardieway.

1. Every year in early spring, the All District Orchestra Concert takes place at the high school. Not only were the high school orchestras involved in this event, but all of the elementary schools and middle schools were, as well. 2. Orchestra break out group. 3. During the middle of a song, senior Isaura DaRosa waits for her cue to begin her part. 4. Before each class, the orchestra has to sing a tuning note, internalizing the pitch before tuning their instrument. After that, the band was given instructions to begin practicing one of their songs. 5. In orchestra, all of the players sit in a semicircle during practices and concerts, according to what they play. Mr. Peek directed the players as they focused to learn the new music they were given. 6. Orchestra break out group. 7. Warming up at the start of class, Juniors Ashley Jones and Tessa Wilson prepare for a typical day in orchestra.

...A Song to Remember...

...Choir Members make Memories...

by Nicole Walker and Molly Jennings

In addition to instrumental music, students also showed their music ability through choir. "I believe that choir has helped improve me as a person. I have more confidence and it has really opened me up. I used to be really shy," said Chambers member Maddie Demas, a junior who had been singing in choirs for as long as she could remember. "I grew up singing in church, but my first official choir was in eighth grade at Hoech."

Maddie was not the only one who has been singing almost as long as she could talk. Freshman Cory Perkins said, "I used to go to a religious school, so I have been singing my whole life."

For others, their interest in choir started a little later. "I have been singing since eighth grade. My sister inspired me to join," said senior Jennifer Bollman.

But no matter when they started singing, the choir members formed a bond that was unforgettable for many of the members. "We have gone through a lot together, and that is definitely what I will remember the most," said Maddie.

"All of the people I met and everything we went through together is what I will remember most about choir," agreed junior Brittany White.

Aside from the memorable bonds, other favorites of choir were "getting up and singing in front of an audience," said junior Jessie Wilson. "It is really fun to perform for people."

"The best part about being in choir is our director," said Maddie, "Dr. Bell is really good, and being in chambers is really fun because it is more intimate, and we get stuff done. The class is really focused, and we get some down time."

Every other day the choirs met to practice and perfect their pieces for their performances at schools, churches, and hospitals. "I love getting to go other places with choir," said Acapella choir member, junior Ashley Dorten. "It's fun getting to go places you have never been before and perform."

For some, choir was not only something they did for school now, but something they were considering doing for the rest of their lives. "My first choir was in kindergarten, and I always thought it would be cool to be a music teacher," said Cory.

For others, it was simply something fun to be part of in school; "I would really like to continue singing in college, but I would not be a choir teacher or anything like that," said Jennifer.

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Women's Chorus. Misty Temares, Meagan Swyers, Kayla Wheeler, Ashley Wheeler, Elaine Intagliata, Teanna Deloch, Krysten Anderson, Jessie Wilson, Amanda Uelk, Rebekah Smith, Ashley Morris, Tynisha Elem, Emily Haley, Bobby Hiltibidal, Tiara Morgan, Michelle Hunterbrinker, Andrea Vanmeter, Brandy Hiltibidal, Natalie Basemore, Anna Hall, Erica Karpenski, Rebecca Sumner, Heather Simpson, Jody Johnson, Demetria Coats, Natalie Sykora.

Mixed Chorus. Aneisha Mcdonald, Griffin Wesche, Samantha Miller, Derrell Jamison, Jasmin Portis, Sarah Hensley, Tamika Mcculley, Brittany Tinnin, Jessica Delk, Carrie Abercrombie, Nicholas Stead, Katrina Harris, Megan Smith, Melissa Bickley, Karla Hunt, Jessica Welterman, Jasmine Johnson, Cory Perkins, Timothy Smith, Amanda Barnhart, Laura Wilson, Sarah Connelly, Jamie Huskey, Alicia Tharp, Toni Zerban, Alyssa Lefever, Heather Boswell, Nygia Chapman, Leslie Mikel, Mark Ford, Tara Rice, Teresa Geno, Julie Portwood.

Chamber Singers. Rachel Wester, Erin Lampe, Michelle Aubuchon, Kristyne Van Dalsem, Kennedy Moore, Jamie Dilorenzo, Ashlee Piacentini, Rachel Gray, Ashley Crook, Casey Mcgown, Christopher Albin, Alison Greco, Michael Hohman, Christina Andrade, Madelyn Demas, Rachel Fetch.

Acapella Choir. Bryanna Harrington, Eleni Madison, Lars Skarie, Casi Menner, Ashley Shoffer, Brittany Henley, Maurice Miller, Crystal Vogelsang, Robie Delaney, Rachel Berry, David Mulholland, Erin Lampe, Amanda Steed, Ashley Dorton, Lauren Wildgrube, Jessica Stough, Tiffany Klingerman, Justin Carter, Christopher Sifford, Kristin Smith, Kathryn Wilkes, Amber Wildey, Kennedy Moore, Lissa Johnson, Jamie Shepherd, Jennifer Bollman, Ashley Crook, Kylee Raney, Danielle Petersen, Shawn Badgett, Jordan Brennan, Rachael Fetch, Brittany White, Jori Herndon, Jessica Daniel, Angela Hoang, Stefany Westfall, Keisha Dickson.

1. Common time signature in music is 4/4. Dr. Bell helped student stay on beat by counting and conducting. 2. During choir, students work on staying in pitch before they begin to sing. Sometimes the members used books and sometimes they had to sing the notes on a certain scale. 3. Staying in pitch is an important part of choir. Altos, sopranos, and baritones worked on blending, so they could sound united. 4. Members of the women's choir warm up at the beginning of class. The first part of choir consisted of warming up, so students did not strain their voices. 5. During class the choir works on song pieces by section. After each section had their part down, the entire class worked together on harmonizing. 6. Freshman choir members Megan Smith and Griffin Wesche work on one of their songs to be performed at the winter concert. 7. Perfecting songs is an essential task for choir students. Before concerts the choir had to go over their songs repeatedly in order to put on a good performance.

...and Director's Commentary

...In the director's chair with the script

by Nicole Walker and Molly Jennings

1980, 1982, 1968. What do these years have in common? It was in these years that the music department directors graduated high school and embarked on the future. However, their journeys did not come without trials and tribulations.

Band director Mr. Haux graduated in 1982 from Sturgeon R-V School. He was in band, band president, student council, pep club, National Honors Society president, and was class officer all four years. Furthermore, he was elected Sturgeon Prom King his senior year.

He began his music career at age five, learning the piano from his grandmother. When he was in fifth grade, the future director learned to play the cornet in the beginner's band. Mr. Haux later learned to play the baritone, trombone, french horn, and tuba. The most difficult instrument for him to learn was the oboe. He said, "I felt like my head was going to explode."

After college, Mr. Haux attended Mizzou with plans to be a history teacher. "Musical experiences in college caused me to change my major to music."

After becoming a teacher, Mr. Haux learned a great deal from his students over the years, enjoying "the collective rush we get at the conclusion of a concert when our students have played really well," and he hoped to provide students "with a greater appreciation and understanding of music."

Dr. Richard Bell returned to Ritenour as the choir teache after graduating in 1980. "I was excited to come back because it is my Alma Mater, but there are always questions with a new job. There's always that unknown territory."

However, music was far from unknown territory for this choir teacher. In high school Dr. Bell was not just in choir and orchestra, but he was president of them, as well. He was also part of the high school's jazz band. "I started playing the string bass in ninth grade, but I have sung all of my life," said Dr. Bell. He continued to play throughout college at the University of Missouri, Kansas City.

Like many students, Dr. Bell believed that music had helped him a lot in life. "I had to work with others to achieve our goal. No matter how good you are, you have to depend on others to do well. It taught us the discipline to do well and achieve."

With his mother having been a pianist and his father having been a vocalist, Mr. David Peek grew up around music. He began singing at the age of four, playing the piano since second grade, and playing the clarinet since the fifth grade. "My dad would take me to K Mart and make me sing 'Let me call you Sweetheart' on the counter."

Mr. Peek graduated in 1968 from Edwardsville High School and furthered his education at SIU in Edwardsville, Colorado State, and Ball State University in Indiana. In high school, Mr. Peek was involved in All State Band, went to Europe in 1968, and attended the International Music Educators Convention. "I would get up at six o' clock every morning and practice the piano for one hour and the clarinet for one hour before school; then after school I had basketball and baseball practice."

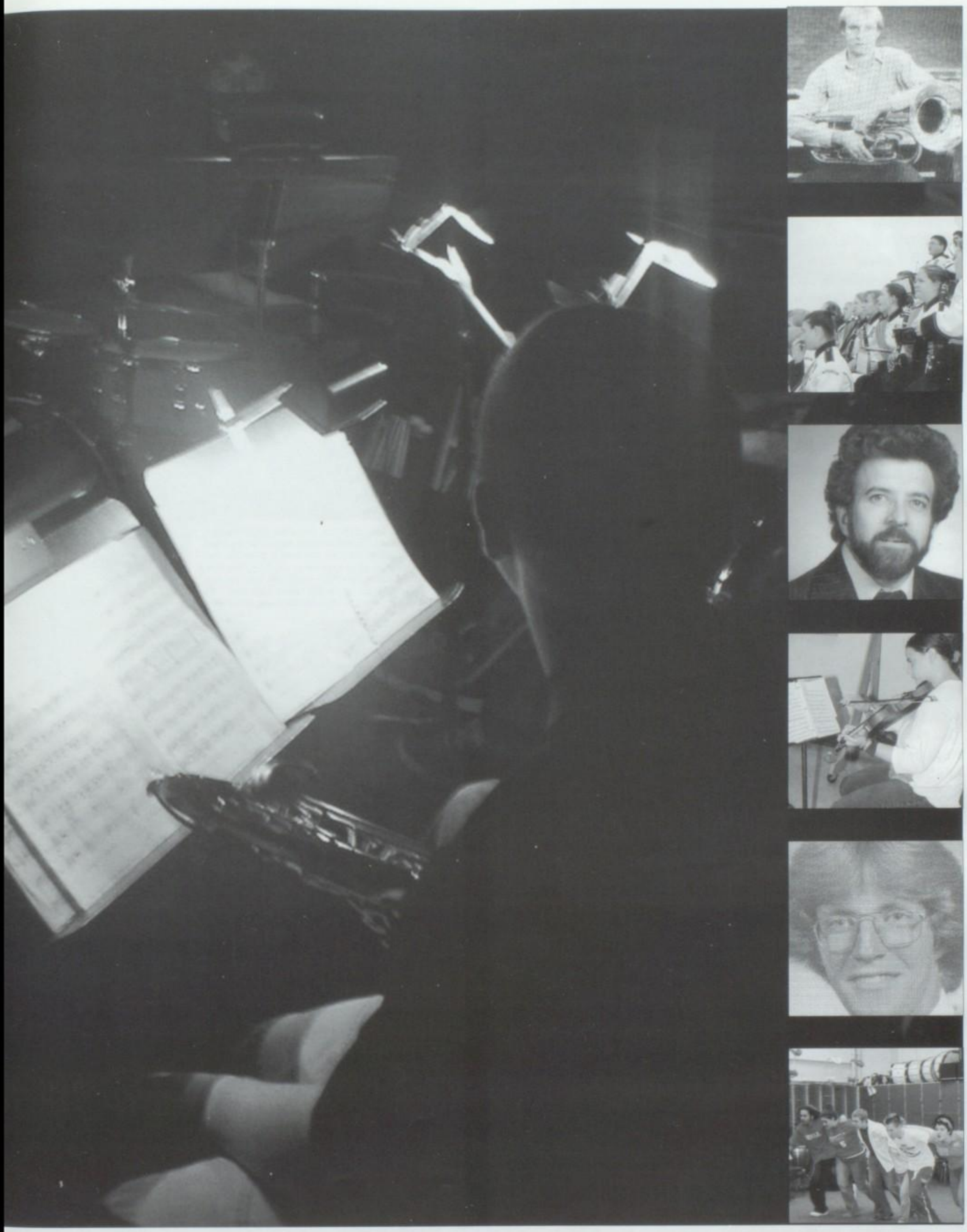
1. Members of the band and orchestra play in the pit during the musical. Though they often practiced with the lights on, clip on lights were used during the actual performance. 2. While a student at Sturgeon R-V, band director Mr. Haux played the tuba in their band. Mr. Haux came from a musically inclined family and hopes students, "will let music continue to enrich their lives as it has mine." 3. During football games, members of the marching band sat together on the right section of the bleachers. They helped get the crowd into the game. 4. In 1987, orchestra director Mr. Peek became a teacher at Ritenour. He his contributions to the music department include taking two orchestras to Europe. 5. In orchestra, sophomore Shannon Keeton works on scales. Scales were used to help orchestra students to become better musicians. 6. After graduating in 1980, Dr. Bell returned to his Alma Mater in 2004. He said, "Things have really turned around here, and we are headed in the right direction." 7. Members of choir practice the musical in the band room. Students had to practice their choreography on Fridays and Saturdays.

Brass. *Front Row*: Kit Keegan, Nick Richardson, Russell Morrissey, Michael Stokes. *Second Row*: Dan Maltman, Nathan Pupillo, Matt Wilson. *Third Row*: Tony Moss, David Shoults. *Back Row*: Tim Meyers, Todd Allen, Chuck Dunn.

Members of orchestra bring their parts together in an effort to prepare for their upcoming concert. To encourage practicing, Mr. Peek required students to work on their scales.

Winds. *Front Row*: Emily Lansche, Tiffany Marsh, Melissa Robinson, Tamia Robinson, Molly Jennings, Jason Moeller. *Second Row*: Brittney Carver, Lara Schueller, Felicia Luensmann, Tomi Sale, Chelsea Hodapp, Jessie Salamone. *Third Row*: Jacob Boehm, Kim Schmidt, Katie Jennings, April Collins, Amanda Necker, Amanda Thomas, Erin Carlson, Olia Bronitsky. *Fourth Row*: Adam Shoults, Donnell Allen, Jason Summner, Kyle Pritchett, Colt Beck. *Back Row*: Kim Moeller, Danielle Criswell, Steven Gray, Cortney Dollens, Austin Horton.

Percussion. *Front Row*: Drum Majors Erica Beger and Kassie Stillman. *Second Row*: Josh Daly, Garrett Lacy, Tom Keeven, Eric Johns, Randy Smith, Jeff Burks, Brad Young. *Third Row*: Jon Lewis, Lydia Rodenberg, Colleen Kelly, Rosetta Okohson-Reb. *Back Row*: Alex Young, Marty Little, Matt Miller, Kennedy Moore.



Giving To The Community...

Leadership, STUCO, and NHS Help Out

by Ashley Scott

Ritenour students became known for helping out in the community. Organizations including National Honor Society (NHS), Student Council (STUCO), and Leadership displyed such attributes.

To be chosen for NHS, one must have had at least a 3.2 GPA and have been involved in extra curricular activities. Then, selected students were evaluated and chosen by teachers. Teachers looked for involvment in school and the community. Members of NHS had many projects to administer throughout the year. They ran the American Red Cross Blood Drive and some even donated their own blood. They also participated in the Big Brother/Big Sister program at Kratz where they played with students. When asked about the program, senior, Becky Coleman said, "It is really fun to play games with the little kids because they are really funny. Usually we play a game with them and then we have a snack. It is really cool because they all look up to us. The fact that they like us so much makes it worth volunteering to play with them."

To be in STUCO, one must be chosen in their third hour A-day class. Representatives met once a month to consult all types of issues concerning the school. They discussed ways to raise money for different charities in the community. STUCO officers were: President, Ali Greco, Vice President, Karl Kulaitis, Secretary Lindsey Buxman, and Treasurer Rosetta Okohson-Reb. STUCO was sponsored by Mrs. Nilges and Mr. Spurgeon and Leadership was sponsored by Mrs. Nilges. Mrs. Nilges stated, "My favorite part of Leadership/STUCO is working with the students. I really enjoy watching them as they get invloved with the projects and as they try to build school spirit. I also like getting to know the students outside of the typical class setting."

STUCO worked with Leadership by raking leaves for the elderly in the Ritenour community, and raising money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. For Make-A-Wish, students came up with fundraisers such as the paper chain wars and the Glow Dance. Proceeds benefited the charity and helped fulfill a wish for a child in need. They organized the canned food drive which gave food to the needy in our community. While STUCO and Leadership worked together, Leadership students met regularly in class to learn better leadership skills. Junior Brad Young stated, "The best part about leadership is organizing the spirit assemblies and homecoming and just being a role model to the under classmen."

Continued on the next page

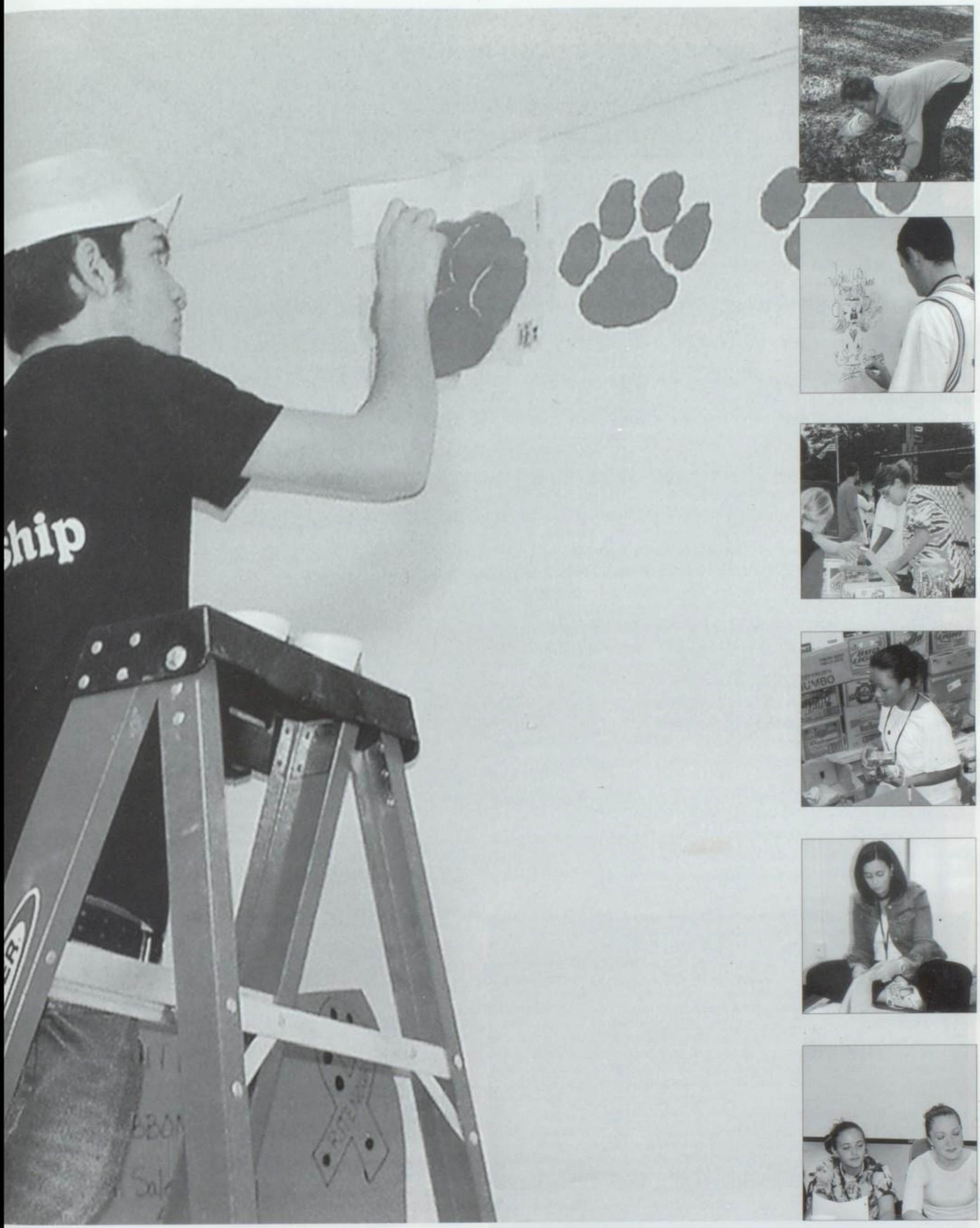
LEADERSHIP A-DAY. *First Row*: Sarah Cooley, Sara Lewis, Cortney Dollens, Nikki Chamberlain, Amanda Steed, Ali Greco. *Second Row*: Whitney Shaw, Ashley Crook, Serafina Adams, Becky Coleman, Chantal Ambrose. *Third Row*: Krissy Van Dalsem, Amanda Schneider, Chris Albin, Dia Clayborn, Karl Kulaitis. Fourth Row: Michelle Turner, Crystal Vogelsang, Brad Young, Leah Kern, Casey McGowan, Rachel Gray. *Fifth Row*: Mrs. Nilges, Chris Sifford, Jackie Greco, De Angelo Rodgers, DreShawna Hearod.

B-DAY LEADERSHIP. *First Row*: Josh McGrotty, Emily Coffey, Deidre Woodberry, Rachel McNamee, Precious Elliott, Shanicia Goston. *Second Row*: Mrs. Nilges, Katie Weinhold, Kelly Durnin, Amanda Laird, Katie Jennings, Micah Little. *Third Row*: Sara Lewis, Carrie Whitcomb, Kayla Recker, Cara Riley, Rosie Bond, Mandi Little, Brittany Hopkin, Meghann Thoma. *Fourth Row*: Mark Sater, Ryan Mahn, Brett Fallon, Lindsey Buxman, Cameron Howard, Justin Davis. *Fifth Row*: Zach Buxman, Kim Schmidt, Josh Donnelly, Alex Young, Nicole Walker.

STUCO. *First Row*: Sarah Hensley, Brittany Tinnin, Samantha Thayer, Andy Hedlund, Justin Pillarick, Zach Buxman, Christina Turner, Brooke Stone, Chelsea Wuellner. *Second Row*: Bobby Hiltibidal, Jessica Coleman, Emily Moruzzi, Nikki Chamberlain, Ali Greco, Karl Kulaitis, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Jerry Buckner, Shane Gordon, Daniel Black, Kristen Rehagen. *Third Row*: Mrs. Nilges, Lauren Stein, Ashley Jones, Katie Jennings, Justin Wheeler. *Fourth Row*: Brad Young, Justin Martin, Kiesha Hamlin, Isaiah Okohson-Reb, Josselyn Smith-Rodgers, Crystal McCandless, Maddie Demas, Larenzo Allen, Jamie DiLorenzo, Phil Hedlund, Brittany Quain, Angie Clarke. *Fifth Row*: Tim McEntire, Marty Little, Matt Miller, Katie Wilkes, Jessica Stough, Shelley McGowan, Steven Duncan, Ryan Curtis, Latanya Elliott.

NHS. *First Row*: Kennedy Moore, Rachel Wester, Jordan Brennan. *Second Row*: Mr. Peterson, Cara Riley, Bethany Panian, Cortney Dollens, Erica Beger, Michelle Aubuchon, Molly Jennings, Shanicia Goston, Kassie Stillman, Ms. Kaufman. *Third Row*: Serafina Adams, Katie Brown, Becky Coleman, Amanda Taylor, David Shoults, Jamie Shepherd, Christina Andrade. *Fourth Row*: Harsh Gupta, Ba Huynh, Kristen Smith, Whitney Shaw, Kelly Durnin, Jamie Henning, Ashley Stock, Leah Kern.

1. To raise money for Adopt-A-Family, Leadership student Ryan Mahn paints paw prints on the wall. Juniors and seniors paid five dollars for their name and year of graduation to appear on a paw print. 2. Leadership and STUCO hope to get the community involved by doing Ambush Leaf Raking. Sophomore, Brooke Stone, a member of STUCO, assisted in raking leaves. 3. When Leadership has spare time, they draw funny pictures of each other on the board. Senior, Justin Davis drew a picture of Rachel McNamee. 4. During Black and Orange Day, Nikki Chamberlain sells candy at the Leadership table. This was one of the many fundraisers Leadership did throughout the year. 5. For the canned food drive, sophomore Emily Coffey and other Leadership students have to count and box the 10,000 can goods and other nonperishable items. The food was donated to a local food bank; and helped make the holiday season a little brighter for many local families. 6. Listening to the NHS meeting, Ms. Kaufman searches for blood drive information. Ms. Kaufman and Mr. Peterson were the sponsors of NHS. 7. Senior officers Cortney Dollens and Michelle Aubuchon help run the NHS meeting. Meetings were held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:15 in the morning.



...And Lending A Helping Hand

TAHC, Mu Alpha Theta, and Readers' Theatre Service Others

by Ashley Scott and Molly Jennings

Tutored students, involved community, volunteered time, entertained crowds. To some students this seemed like a lot but to students in Mu Alpha theta, Teenage Health Consultants (TAHC) and Readers' Theatre this was just another normal day.

Students in Mu Alpha Theta played a large leadership role. To be inducted into the organization, juniors and seniors had to excel in math. Once inducted, students were required to participate in after school tutoring helping those who strüggled. Senior Molly Jennings stated, "I feel like a leader when helping a student with math and then all of a sudden they understand it. It's very rewarding to know that I helped a student and that they are no longer struggling."

Other members felt like leaders when they helped out their friends. Senior Ashley Stock said, "You really feel that you are a leader when you can help improve your friends math skills."

Officers for Mu Alpha Theta were President Cortney Dollens, Vice-President Molly Jennings, Secretary Ashley Stock, and Treasurer Erica Beger. At their monthly meetings, sponsor Ms. Ross often provided breakfast, something senior Becky Coleman thoroughly enjoyed: "The best part has to be the doughnuts at some of our meetings!"

Teenage Health Consultants also served as leaders throughout the district. TAHC members traveled primarily to the middle schools teaching students about issues they may have faced including dating and violence. Students were perceived as positive role models to younger peers every day. TAHC sponsor Ms. Lehman commented, "I think the students involved have to show daily leadership in their lives to be able to talk to the students about their topics. You can't teach something that you don't truly believe in yourself as well. Their character and attitude in life had to always show that leadership role because they are being looked up to as a leader."

Another group of leaders were members of Readers' Theatre. Students auditioned and were selected to perform a piece at the District Speech and Debate competition. Freshman Brandyn Burnette considered his leadership role to be embarrassing and hard at first: "Some of the things that we did was embarrassing, but once we did it a couple of times I got more comfortable with the whole thing."

Fellow Readers' Theatre member sophomore April Fohey agreed with Brandyn stating, "You are always performing in front of a crowd so you can't help but not be shy."

At the District Speech and Debate competition, Readers' Theatre took second place which qualified them for the state competition.

Through the efforts made by Mu Alpha Theta, Teenage Health Consultants, and Readers' Theatre, students were able to display the leadership qualities they acquired from participating. Students in these various organizations helped others gaining knowledge themselves.

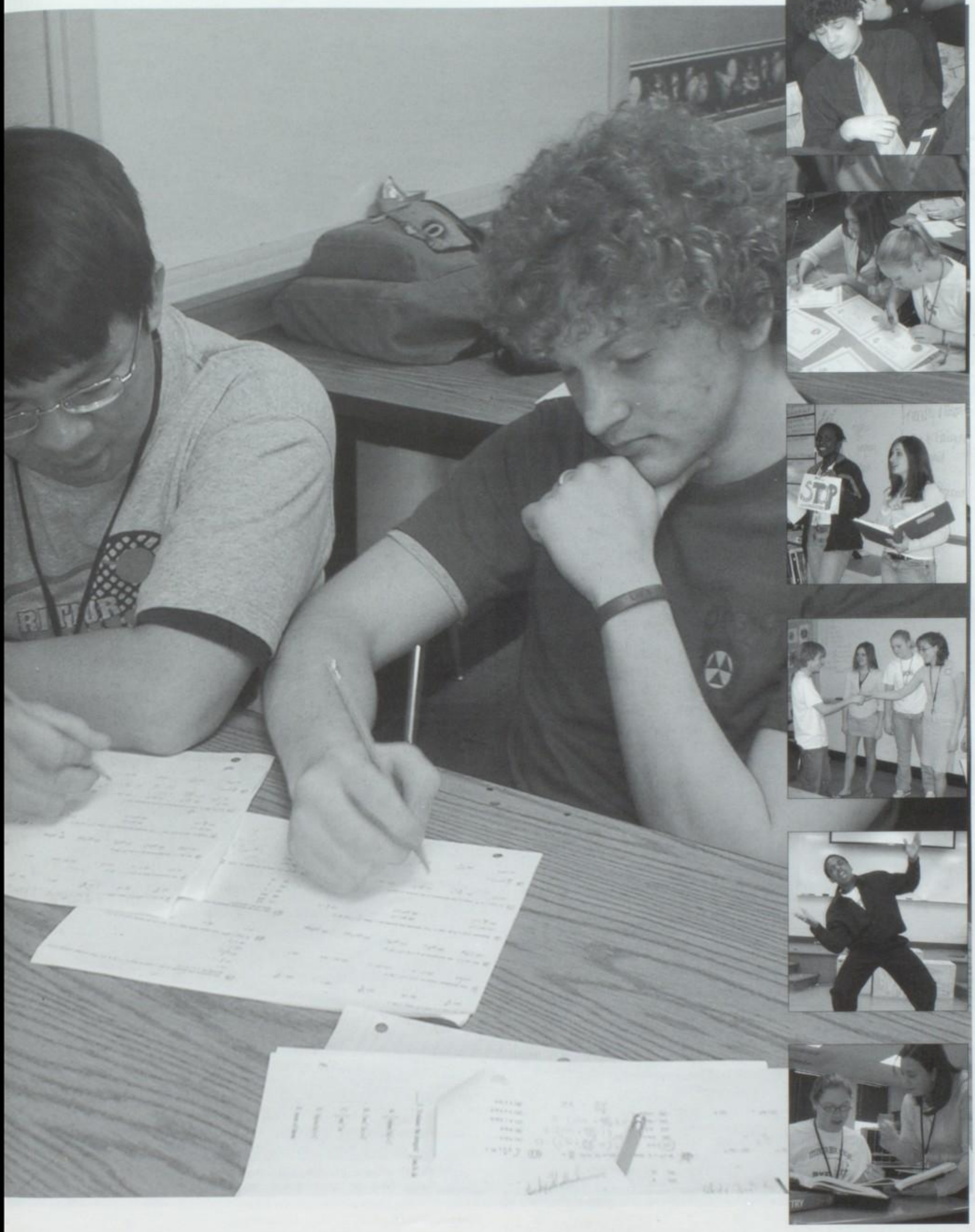
TAHC. *Front Row:* Ba Huynh, Kassie Stillman, Precious Elliott, Ali Greco, Chesha Bizan, Amy Bostick. *Back Row*: Mrs. Lehman, Ajah Thomas, Whitney Shaw, Britttany Garner, Sara Lewis, Michelle Aubuchon, Josh Wuest, Ashley Stock, Jamie DiLorenzo.

Readers' Theatre. *First Row:* Steven Perkins, Nicole Walker, April Fohey, Cara Riley. *Back Row:* Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Larenzo Allen, Brandyn Burnette, Brian Williams.

Mu Alpha Theta. *Front Row:* Whitney Young, Jason Moeller, Jamie Shepherd, Kassie Stillman, Bethany Panian, Sarah Cooley, Katie Jacobsmeyer. Second Row: Erica Beger, Micah Little, Kayla Recker, Mandi Little, Rachel Wester, Ashley Woods, Danielle Criswell, Ciara Cooper. Third Row: Mrs. Ross, Katie Aryes, Mark Sater, Ashley Morris, Joey Binkley, Dru Tate, Matt Record. Back Row: Kim Moeller, Amanda Thomas, Katie Brown, John Hynes, Becky Coleman, Michelle Aubuchon, Marty Little, Ashley Stock.

Performing for students at Ritenour High School, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Cara Riley, and Brian Williams recite lines from Joyful Noise. The Readers' Theatre group performed all day for the students. This served as practice for the members of the group before they went to competition.

1. Comparing answers in Ms. Ross' Calculus class, seniors Ba Huynh and Andy Hedlund debate whose answer is correct. Both were members of Mu Alpha Theta, a Math Honors Society. 2. Performing Joyful Noise, Readers' Theatre member freshman Brandyn Burnette focuses on his lines. Readers' Theatre practiced daily leading up to the District competition, in which they took second place. 3. Signing official acceptance certificates, Mu Alpha Theta President, senior Cortney Dollens, and senior Secretary Ashley Stock concentrate on keeping their signatures legible. Both were also required to sign the congratulatory letters for newly inducted members. 4. Giving a presentation, Teenage Health Consultants, seniors Ajah Thomas and Whitney Shaw inform students about violence. TAHC members received training and helped students understand the importance of several different issues. 5. Becoming an inducted member of Mu Alpha Theta, senior officers, President Cortney Dollens, Secretary Ashley Stock and Vice-President Molly Jennings congratulate fellow senior Jason Moeller. 6. Before competition, Readers' Theatre member senior Steven Perkins practices with fellow members. Aside from Readers' Theatre, Steven also qualified for state in Storytelling and he qualified for State and Nationals in Humorous Interpretation. 7. Offering assistance to sophomore Erin Carlson, NHS sponsor and math teacher Ms. Kaufman is always willing to help a student. Ms. Kaufman and Mr. Peterson oversaw activities done through NHS including tutoring and the NHS Bookstore.


STOP

Prepping for Success...

Students words convey force...

by Sara Lewis and Molly Jennings

"The only weapon that becomes sharper with constant use is the tongue." *-Anonymous*

Students often embrace the opportunity to sharpen this weapon through activities that enhance communication skills. These clubs and organizations include Melaureus, Pepper Box, Relfections, KRHS, Speech and Debate, Mock Trial, Readers' Theatre, and Drama. Through these activities, students not only learn to communicate more efficiently, but they obtain skills that will help them for years to come.

In Yearbook class, students communicated verbally as well as visually. In addition to writing stories, they also had to take tasteful photos to accompany the articles and build creative layouts to display them. This year, in particular, communication was vital due to the addition of a second class. "Messages get mixed up! It's like the game of telephone; you have to work twice as hard to keep things going," explained Kim Kellum. When communication lines were open, work could get done successfully.

Thinking on the spot and speaking without a script was an enormous challenge, yet members of KRHS tackled this obstacle on a daily basis. Communicating to a broad audience and still conforming to the stringent standards of the FCC was a hurdle, and sometimes it made DJs nervous. "I get nervous when I talk in front of people. I have to tell myself that is just me," stated senior Daniel Hollis, explaining how he combated his fears of public speaking. Communicating live over the radio allowed students to express themselves in a unique form of communication.

While publishing a newspaper that was read by hundreds of students to keep them informed on current issues, maintaining sharp communication skills was crucial. "Communication skills are so important! I learned so much about the way that you have to approach people," replied Dia Clayborn, editor of the Pepper Box. Keeping the staff in order and creating a quality publication required communication not only with classmates, but with the student body as a whole.

Self-expression through literary pieces and tasteful artwork was made possible through Ritenour's publication, Reflections. Students could submit their written work and art to the magazine that was published once a year. "Honestly, without communication, there would be no magazine," admits David Underhill, three year member of Reflections and layout specialist. Whether it was communicating with the editor to meet a deadline, or expressing themselves to the student body, members of Reflections got their point across effectively.

continued on next page

1. Introducing the next tune, junior Ganay Green fulfills the requirements of the Radio Station. As part of their grade, students were given air time on 90.1 FM Radio Active. 6. Placing yearbook stories and captions on the organization layout, senior Kyle Smith makes deadline. Deadlines were frequent occurrences in the class to accomplish this yearbook. 7. Plotting out their stories, seniors Jessica Gischer and Andy Hedlund work on their next leads for their documentaries. KRHS students made several documentaries on events within the school and issues that affected teens. They were displayed in the cafeteria during the lunch hours. 8. Reviewing their layouts, senior yearbook staff members Nick Richardson and Chesha Bizan make sure the page has all of its necessities. 9. Looking over corrections, editor Cortney Dollens, a senior, discusses specific errors that need to be fixed with layout personnel, freshman Danielle Jamerson. Much like real-life publications, the yearbook classes follow a chain of command. 10. Preparing a story for her editor, senior DreShawna Hearod glances once more for punctation errors. Grades for newspaper are based on the requirements met by the students. Whether they are met through completing a deadline or turning in a second draft, all were necessary for the publication of the Pepper Box. 11. Looking overproofs, senior Casey McGowan thumbs through the pages, paying close attention to every letter.

KRHS. *Front Row:* Kim Schmidt, Lindsey Buxman, Whitnee' Watson, Charnez Graham, Turquoise Mabon, MeghannThoma and Kennedy Moore. *Second Row:* Bethany Panian, Cara Riley, Tiffany Whittig, Caitlin Healy, Brittany Curtis, Shauna Moore, Jonette Hudson and Amanda Taylor. *Back Row:* Terry Raby, Jeremy King, Tim Berry, Sponsor Mrs. Bannester, Tim Davis, Justin Davis, Trevor Williams, Zach Dingman, Justin Carter and Kyle Smith.

Melaureus. *Front Row:* Bethany Panian, Sara Lewis, Jessica Franklin, Ali Greco, Nicole Young and Whitney Young. *Second Row:* Karl Kulaitis, Kristen Rehagen, Danielle Jamerson, Erica Beger, Ashley Scott, Heather Young and Chesha Bizan. *Third Row:* Nicole Walker, Loren Black, Amy Bostick, Cortney Dollens, Nikki Chamberlain, Becky Coleman, Rachel Valdez and Kyle Smith. *Back Row:* Adviser, Ms. Boyd, Molly Jennings, Josh Wuest, Deidre Woodberry, Melissa Sabin, Erin Lampe, William Poelker, Tonia O'Neal, and DreShawna Hearod.

Pepper Box. *Front Row:* Danielle Criswell, Melissa Sabin, Bethany Panian, Argilicia Bobo, Kim Wells, and DreShawna Hearod. *Second Row:* Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Whitney Collins, Whitney Shaw, Tonia O'Neal, Dia Clayborn, and David Claffy. *Back Row:* Chris Dickerson, Katie Brown, Larenzo Allen, Tiana Lambus, Marqus Johnson, and Adviser, Ms. Boyd.

Reflections. *Front Row:* Jamie Shepherd and Bethany Panian. *Back Row:* Lindsay Dunlap, Tim Smith, Mike Weatherford and Tonia O'Neal.

blaspheme

...And Learning Our Lines

...Stripping Back To Basics

by Sara Lewis and Molly Jennings

Freshman Andrew Heil was in Speech and Debate and involved with Congress. Congress was just one event students could prepare for in Speech and Debate. His duties were to "give a negative or affirmative speech on a specified bill." To get ready for Congress, Andrew worked on his speech in and out of class. Through Speech and Debate, Andrew learned to "not tell people to shut up, because I get points taken off," and "how to write a speech really fast." With the valuable lessons, Andrew said he enjoyed "meeting others and competing."

To work on his communication skills, sophomore Charles Pleasant prepared for debate tournaments. When Charles was to perform Radio, he wrote it the day before. Although Charles was able to procrastinate when preparing for Radio, some of his other specialties, such as Public Form, Duet Improvisation, and Theatre Sports took more time. Before a competition, Speech and Debate coach and communications teacher Mrs. Jurs helped Charles by acting as a judge. Charles said, "She points out the loopholes." To loosen up before competitions, Charles enjoyed playing word games: "word games like 'I am a mother pheasant plucker, I pluck mother pheasants, I am the best mother pheasant plucker to ever pluck a mother pheasant' help us with our articulation."

Senior Cara Riley was selected to participate in Reader's Theatre. Participating in Readers' Theatre required lots of practice to perform well. Students practiced multiple times a week and when close to districts, they practiced more. Cara enjoyed Readers' Theatre because, "You get to act like someone you're not, and even if we don't win, we still have fun."

Drama Club members did a variety of things that enabled them to work on their communication skills, including video scavenger hunts, plays, and talent shows. Sophomore Tracy Johnson especially enjoyed participating in Drama Club because, "You can express how you feel and have an opinion about what goes on." Joining Drama Club taught Tracy "to talk to others and to get other friends."

Freshman Nick Stead was also in Drama Club. Nick decided to participate in Drama Club because "I have always wanted to be an actor." Despite his dream, Nick had to overcome fears: "I used to be frightened to act in front of people. Drama Club has helped me gain confidence when performing."

Through many organizations, students had the opportunity to express themselves. By participating in such activities, students had the chance to express their views, styles, and talents.

1. Many organizations, including Drama Club, participate in the Homecoming parade. Their float was not only a billboard promoting the play *Fools*, but it also represented the homecoming parade theme, "Run Over the Rams." 2. Taking time to relax before competition, sophomore Aiesha Awad and former Speech and Debate member, Melissa Harlow, kill time before the next round. Although Melissa graduated last year, she accompanied the Speech and Debate team to Jefferson City to be a judge. 3. Conversing outside before a tournament, Speech and Debate members ready themselves for their upcoming competition. 4. Preparing for a Speech and Debate tournament made members freshman Isaiah Okohson-Reb, and CJ Aubuchon, and sophomore April Fohey buy snacks from a vending machine. Debate tournaments could last very long with little time for food. 5. Going over his case, senior Sam Winter prepares for a Speech and Debate tournament. Sitting on the bus provided Speech and Debate members with time to prepare or relax before competition. 6. Waiting for results, seniors Brian Williams and Michelle Aubuchon keep one another company. Speech and Debate members had time between rounds to make final preparations. 7. Communications teacher and Speech and Debate coach, Ms. Jurs, discusses the final round with some students' parents. Parents attended Speech and Debate tournaments to support their kids and to act as chaperones.

Preparing for a duo competition, seniors Nicole Walker and Brian Williams practice their lines. Speech and Debate students worked on their speeches up until the actual performance.

Speech and Debate. *Front Row:* Ms. Carver, Steven Perkins, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Christina Andrade, Michelle Aubuchon, Ms. Jurs. *Second Row:* April Fohey, Erica Karpinski, Keisha White, Larenzo Allen, Kayla Cattage. *Third Row:* Alicia Barnes, Sabrina Ellis, Christina Turner, Chamez Graham, Whitnee' Watson, Rachel Valdez, Cara Riley, Jamie Henning. *Fourth Row:* Sam Winter, Isaiah Okohson-Reb, Richard Andrade, Jackie Marsh, Aiesha Awad, Noraiza Talbin, Brandyn Burnette. *Fifth Row:* Charles Pleasant, Jennifer Abrams, Turquoise Mabon, Brian Williams, C.J. Aubuchon. *Sixth Row:* Alexis Cook, Melissa Harlow, Ian Parmley, Andrew Heil, Josh Lohnes, Thomas Schultz, Nicole Walker. Not Pictured: Melissa Sabin, Ba Huynh, Victoria Schwartz, Leah Kern, Anthony Clemons, and Danielle Howerton.

Members of Readers' Theatre practice for Districts by performing for classes in Room 164. Students met daily after school learning their parts to successfully compete. At the District competition, Readers' Theatre took second place and qualified for the state competition.

Drama Club. *Front Row:* Sara Cooley, Ahn Nguyen, Frieda Davis. *Second Row:* Ali Greco, Tracy Johnson, Christina Andrade, Chris Krug, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Alexis Cook. *Back Row:* Beth Duffin, Niclole Walker, Ravione Scott, Larenzo Allen, Nick Vaughn, Nick Steen, Mrs. Cavanagh

Switching Gesticulations...

Foreign Languages expand education...

by Kristen Rehagen, Bethany Panian, Casey McGowan, and Erin Lampe

"Gutentag. ¿Tú hablas español? Une certaine je ne sais quoi"…pardon my French, but "there is something special" and intriguing about foreign languages. Some colleges required credits in a foreign language for acceptance. In addition, students who took another language deepened their understanding of the English language through their mastery of another. "Taking French helps you understand our own language. Many words we use every day come from French roots," said senior Zach Dingman.

Spanish quickly became the second most common language in the United States, and these students steeped themselves in the language. In Spanish Club, students enjoyed "cooking Spanish dishes, listening to Spanish music, and talking about Spanish culture," explained freshman Kayla Happe. Señora McGowin provided the club with a thorough background in different Hispanic cultures. She taught them a salsa dance and how to prepare new foods. "The members are all pretty nice," said freshman Brannon Griffith.

For those adept in the Spanish language, Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica was an honors organization. After obtaining a 4.0 in the foreign language for at least five semesters, students were automatically placed in the organization. Senior Amanda Taylor's past experiences with Spanish was a factor for choosing the language in high school: "We had to take three years of [Spanish] in middle school, and I knew I would do well because I'm familiar with it."

Although Spanish was a predominate language, French was also very common. Students who took French and wished to join French Honors Society, or Société Honoraire de Français, had to study the language for two years, and receive an "A" for three of the four semesters. Société Honoraire de Français awarded and recognized students for their hard work by giving them opportunities to get scholarships for their achievements and other recognitions throughout the year.

French Club members met once a month where they prepared French food, shared in activities, and played French games. The club was comprised of French speaking students who wanted to participate in more French activities. "It's a fun club where we can get together and enjoy the French culture," explained Madame Scott. Members of French Club also planned their bi-annual trip to France.

"I like French Club because I am with a group of people who enjoy the same things I do," said senior Kristin Smith.

Lauren Zelle, a sophomore, said, "I took French because I wanted to learn more about the culture. I think France is such a beautiful place, and the language is also beautiful."

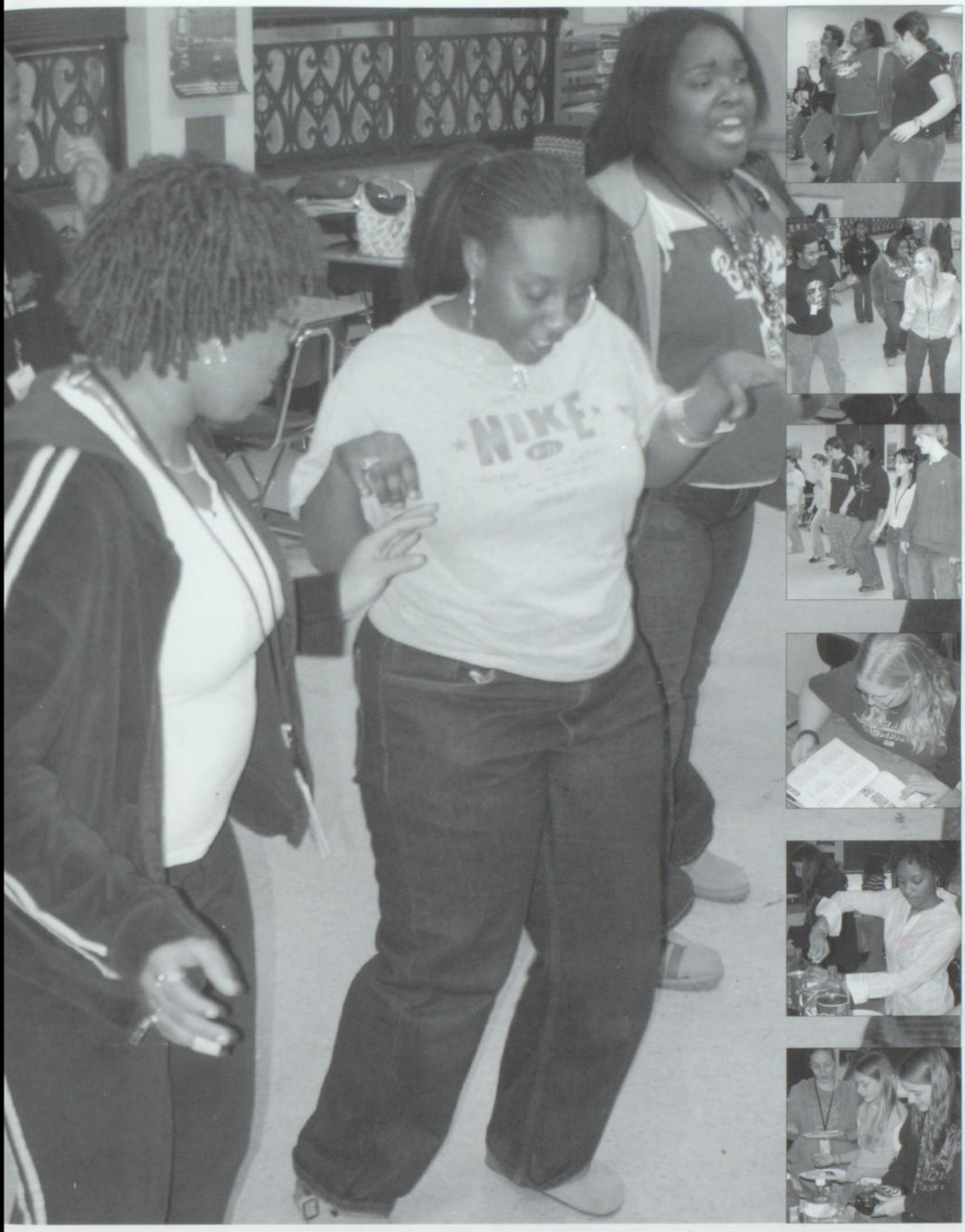
SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY. *First Row*: Katie Brown, Anabel Gonzalez. *Second Row*: Amanda Taylor, Sara Lewis, Serafina Adams, Matthew Record. *Third Row*: Casey McGowan, Amanda Reppy, Steven Ward, Ba Huynh.

SPANISH CLUB. *Front Row*: Amanda Taylor, Sara Lewis, Deidre Woodberry. *Back Row*: Ryan Walters, Larenzo Allen, Senora McGowin, Rosetta Okohson-Reb

FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY. *Front Row*: Shanicia Goston, Michelle Aubuchon, Becky Coleman, Jamie Shepherd, Megan Jones, Sarah Cooley. *Second Row*: Sara Bouska, Kristin Smith, Jennifer Malawey, Ashleigh Cole, Amber McDaniel, Keisha Dickson, Meggie Meisinger, Zachary Dingman. *Third Row*: Leah Kern, Katherine Jacobsmeyer, Arica Barnes, Lauren Zelle, Cortney Dollens, Nikki Chamberlain, Ashley Stock.

FRENCH CLUB. *Front Row*: Shanicia Goston, Michelle Aubuchon, Becky Coleman, Kristy Johnson. *Second Row*: Sara Bouska, Kristin Smith, Meggie Meisinger, Lauren Zelle, Jamie Shepherd, Chesha Bizan, Jennifer Malawey. *Third Row*: Katherine Jacobsmeyer, Arica Barnes, Cortney Dollens, Nikki Chamberlain, Ashley Stock.

1. Watching their steps, juniors Keiasha Ferguson, Demetria Coats, and Kayla Cattage practice the Marengue. Dancing was one of the Spanish Club's activities that drew the largest crowd. 2. Focusing on the music, juniors Terrance Brown, Kayla Cattage, and Christina Andrade try to stay on beat. Learning the Conga required lots of concentration. 3. While dancing with the students, Senora McGowin looks back to make sure the students are following along. 4. When learning a new dance, it helps to work in groups. Students often followed each other's moves throughout the learning process. 5. Reviewing vocabulary is a important part of learning another language. During a French Club meeting, senior Kristin Smith conjugated verbs. 6. Before every French Club meeting, a variety of French food is available. After junior Shanicia Goston poured a cup of soda, she practiced her vocabulary. 7. While forming a food line, juniors Sara Bouska, Katie Jacobsmeyer, and freshman Bridgette Dreier pile food and dessert on their plates. Sara particularly enjoyed the fruit crepes.


NIKE

...Changing Mindset

by Erin Lampe, Casey McGowan, Kristen Rehagen, and Bethany Panian

The language most forgotten about was German. It was the least common offered language spoken in the United States. Students in Herr Jones' German classes chose German for a variety of reasons. "I wanted to enlighten myself with a language that a lot of attractive guys speak," junior Ashlee Piacentini explained.

For some the reason, for their chosen language was more personal. "I am part German, and I wanted to learn the language that my ancestors spoke," said freshman Amanda Lyerla.

The students in the German classes had the choice to further their knowledge of the German culture by joining German Club, which was also open to non-German students. German Club met on Thursdays once or twice a month to discuss the various activities they planned for the school year. Some of the functions that the German Club put together was Karneval Der Musik, a battle of the bands that was held twice a year, different German dinners and festivals, the hosting of German students, and semi-annual trips to Germany.

Another way to continue the growing knowledge of German life was by being inducted into the German Honor Society. To be considered for induction, students had to complete three consecutive semesters of German, and receive an 'A'. When one became a member of the honor society, an induction dinner at a German restaurant recognized the achievement.

In addition to three foreign languages, cultural diversity was furthered through American Field Support (AFS). AFS was a club that sponsored the foreign exchange students that came to the United States. Led by three year sponsor Mrs. Mabrey-Lowry, the club was responsible for finding families for the students to live with during their stay in the U.S. The students that visited were Rattapon Ponchan and Eve Komkam from Thailand, and Noraiza Talbin from the Philippines. The students came to the U.S. knowing very little English and had to adapt to a new culture without the support of their family. Senior Noraiza Talbin explained: "I am homesick, but this is a great experience for me. That is how I get through the time away from my family."

Students had the chance to learn about other cultures and meet new and interesting people. They could have visited other countries and eaten at a cafe, knowing that when they tried to order a soda, they would not be delivered sushi. With that said, Tchao. Adios. Auf Wiedersehen.

German Honor Society. *Front Row:* Jessica Gischer, Jennifer Lambert, Micah Little, Tom Hill. *Second Row:* Ryan Mahn, Mark Sater, Jacob Fisher, Molly Jennings, Jennifer Abrams. *Third Row:* Amber Green, Ashlee Piacentini, Nicole Walker, David Hermann.*Back Row:* Herr Jones.

German Club. *Front Row:* Lyndsey Shaw, Jennifer Abrams, German Club Alumni Megan Woods, Russell Morrissey, Jessica Gischer, Lindsay Cranmer, Kayleigh Clark, Elise Simino. *Back Row:* Herr Jones, Jacob Boehm, Heather Roush, Tonia O'Neal, Larenzo Allen, Ashlee Piacentini, Sam Winter.

AFS. *Front Row:* Jamie Henning, Ba Huynh, Anh Nguyen. *Back Row:* Ms. Donna Mabrey-Lowrey, Eve Komkam, Noraiza Talbin Mati, Sarah McHenry.

Showing spirit for their home countries, the foreign exchange students senior Eve Komkam from Thailand, junior Talbin Mati from Philippines, and senior Rattapon Ponchan from Thailand in AFS march in the Homecoming parade.

1. At the AFS annual Christmas party, students play cards, among other activities including baking pizza and playing board games. 2. Arranging a poster for the annual activities fair, juniors Russell Morrissey and Danielle Criswell, senior Tonia O'Neal and freshman Jacob Boehm prepare to promote German Club. The activities fair was set up to encourage incoming freshmen to get involved. 3. Looking over the progress, Herr Jones evaluates senior Tonia O'Neal and freshmen Jacob Boehm's ideas for promoting KDM. Among the list of things to do, German Club planned and held the bi-annual Karneval der Musik. 4. Partaking in refreshments, senior Sam Winter ponders about the Karneval der Musik. The money raised from Karneval der Musik went towards the German trip for club members. 5. Keeping in touch with German culture is important to the German Club. Junior Ashlee Piacentini scanned over a letter sent from a teacher in Germany. 6. Activities in German Club cause students to become famished. To quench her thirst, junior Danielle Criswell refreshed herself with soda and cookies provided by Herr Jones. 7. Scanning the sign-in sheet, freshman Shelly McGowan looks to see who attended the meeting. With members in German Club, it was essential to keep track of who came to the meetings.

2 LITERS
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Community Service

Business groups serve our community

by Tonia O'Neal

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Distributive Education Club of America (DECA), and American Youth Foundation (AYF) are all different organizations; however, they were all involved with their community. Members from the organizations shared what they did for our community outside of high school, and how it made them feel at the end of the day.

Members of all these organizations got down to business. April Chilton, a sophomore and member of FCCLA commented, "We are involved in a lot. We constantly do community work. One small thing we do is help out with the school recycling bins, which in return is great for the environment, not just Ritenour." AYF members stepped up to the plate and set up a school fundraiser. "In addition to our other activities, we were able to start a Tsunami relief fund," stated Mrs. Van Alstine, the sponsor of AYF. Not all activities represented our community by serving foreign societies. Philanthropic efforts hit close to home. Senior Ba Huynh, participant of FBLA, explained, "We do fundraisers and such for the Salvation Army, and we also support the March of Dimes." Others, like Nichole Basemore, were focused more so on teaching leadership skills and gaining experience. Nichole, a member of DECA and a senior, made the comment, "DECA is a leadership group in which we help people prepare for their futures." Permitting others to be prepared for their futures and allowing them to gain the knowledge they needed to succeed was just another way these organizations aided our community's growth.

Many members considered their work to be exciting and fulfilling. "I work with people and we decide on one thing as a group, which has given me an open mind to other opinions, and views," indicated senior Amber Williams, a member of AYF. Group involvement was very important but not the only quality that made it worth it. Nichole Basemore added, "It is really nice working with the people in the group. Everything is well-organized and inspirational. Then to top it off we get to help others. It is really worth it." Working with others and knowing it was for a good cause was not the only plus to community service. FCCLA member Amber Chilton not only felt good about what she had done but knew it would help her to succeed in the future. "It is a lot of fun, and I know it will look good on college applications."

Students who belonged to AYF, FBLA, DECA, or FCCLA helped out their community and found it exciting and fulfilling. If it was to make a college application look better or just to know that they helped someone out, members were more than willing to aid and benefit their community, as well as helping out their fellow humans in a time of need.

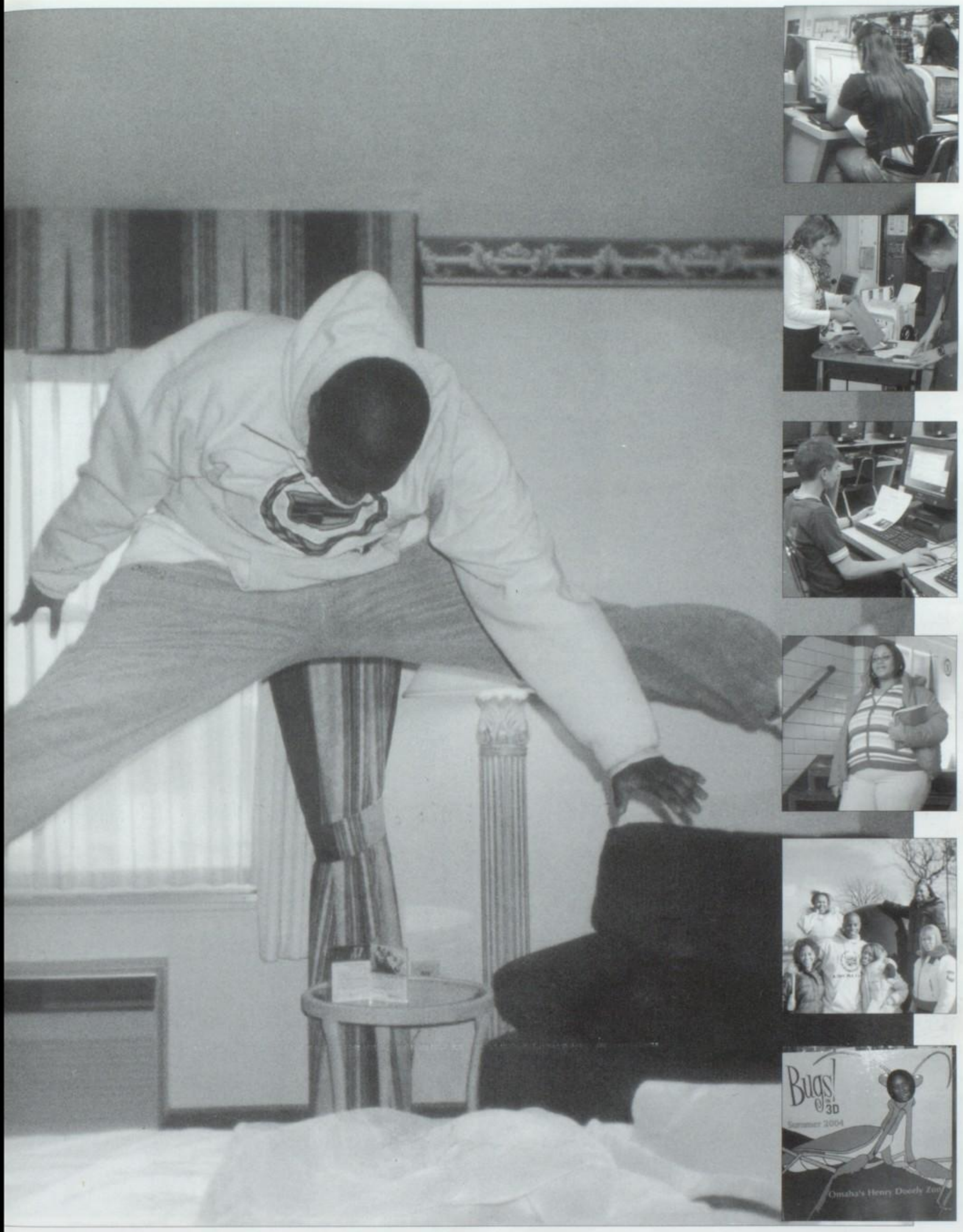
FCCLA. *Front row:* Tiara Huntington, Jerami Moody, Chantal Ambrose. *Second row:* Deidre Woodberry, Demetria Coats, Shanicia Goston, Brooke Stone, Twylaa Taylor, April Chilton. *Third row:* Kayla Cattage, Krystal Johnson, Ketra Amell, Keiasha Ferguson, Katie Weinhold. *Back row:* Ms. Nagy, Ashley Stock, Tegan Gatlin, Ms. Allen.

FBLA. *Front Row:* Ms.DeMuri, Whitney Young, Ms. Jorden. *Second Row:* Colleen Kelly, Rosetta Okohson-Reb, Jamie Shepherd. *Third Row:* Mike Weatherford, Victoria Schwartz. *Fourth Row:* Keiasha Ferguson, Demetria Coats, Isaura DaRosa. *Fifth Row:* Julia Enloe, Kristen Smith, Ajah Thomas. *Back Row:* Richard Stewart, Jae Park, Ba Huynh, Steven Perkins.

DECA. *Front row:* Mr. Heeter, Andrew Parezo, Ajah Thomas, Tammisha Spratt, Ce'Rise Miller, Tiffany Wittig. *Back row:* David Hermann, Nichole Basemore, Adam Ullrich, Willie Pruitt, Chad Gornicz.

AYF. Jae Park and Ajah Thomas.

1. Jumping on a hotel bed, Jerami Moody enjoys himself on a trip. Throughout the year, FBLA members took trips to further their involvement and commitment. 2. Powerpoint and web design competitions are just one part of FBLA projects. Working on a project, Crystal Binford perfected the Powerpoint to receive a high score. 3. Counting the collected money, Jae Park and Mrs. VanAlstine finish the Tsunami project started by AYF. After the Tsunami in East Asia, Ritenour took part in raising funds for the victims. 4. Typing vigilantly, sophomore David Malawey finishes a FBLA project. 5. Walking out the front doors, Nichole Basemore gets picked up after a DECA meeting. 6. FBLA members hang out in front of a piece of artwork on a trip. 7. On one FBLA trip, Shanicia Goston bugs out at the Henry Dorley Zoo.


Bugs!
3D
Summer 2004
Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo

Survival of the Righteous ...

Students bring new meaning to R rated

by Kristy Johnson

The Ritenour Cardinal Ordinance (RCO), a group formerly known as the Metropolitan Student Leadership Program (MSLP), is an organization that promoted student leadership through various challenging tasks not usually experienced in the classroom, such as hiking, camping, caving, and high-rope climbing, among others. Their members were nominated by teachers during their freshman year based on a number of facets of a student, including grades, attendance, attitude, and leadership potential. Once selected, members were separated into three different groups based on their grade level. Each group level did separate activities assigned to each year, as well as a multitude of other activities as a whole. The year members were graduating helped determine what their group name was.

Sophomore members, also known as Seven's, did a lot of group-bonding activities and various community service projects. Group participation and moral was stressed throughout the year. During the camping trip, having fun was on the top of most members' lists. Sophomore Darrell Boland said, "When we went camping, it was all great and everything was fun. When I got home though, I went through my bag, and I found a pair of girls' underwear in there! It was crazy!" Bonding was another important aspect of RCO to sophomore members, as they would be together in RCO for the next two years.

Junior members, also called Six's, participated in a three-day overnight camping trip in the fall. Each member was given the task of sleeping alone in a dark, cold cave for the duration of one night. This undertaking frightened most, but others enjoyed it and made it more to their liking. Junior Chris Tate said, "The caves weren't scary at all for me. Camping is the best out of everything we do, just because I really like camping."

Senior members, also known as Five's, participated in a high-rope course designed to challenge them, as well as provide an outlet for peer interaction. Senior Jeremy King said, "The course was basically just a rope course up high, that we had to walk from tree to tree. The funniest thing that happened there was that when Karl Kulatis did it, everyone could see his butt from down below."

All three groups participated together in a variety of activities in the community, as well as an over-night camp with Wyland Elementary students, where they helped younger children with candle making, rope making, and collecting insects, as well as a lot of other activities. At the camp, RCO members acted as camp counselors and organized activities for the campers. Designed to stimulate learning and relationships between RCO students. Junior Maddie Demas said, "The Wyland camp was my favorite part of RCO. Everybody had their jobs to complete, but they also had a lot of fun too with all the little kids. It was just cool to have everyone there enjoying themselves and working hard."

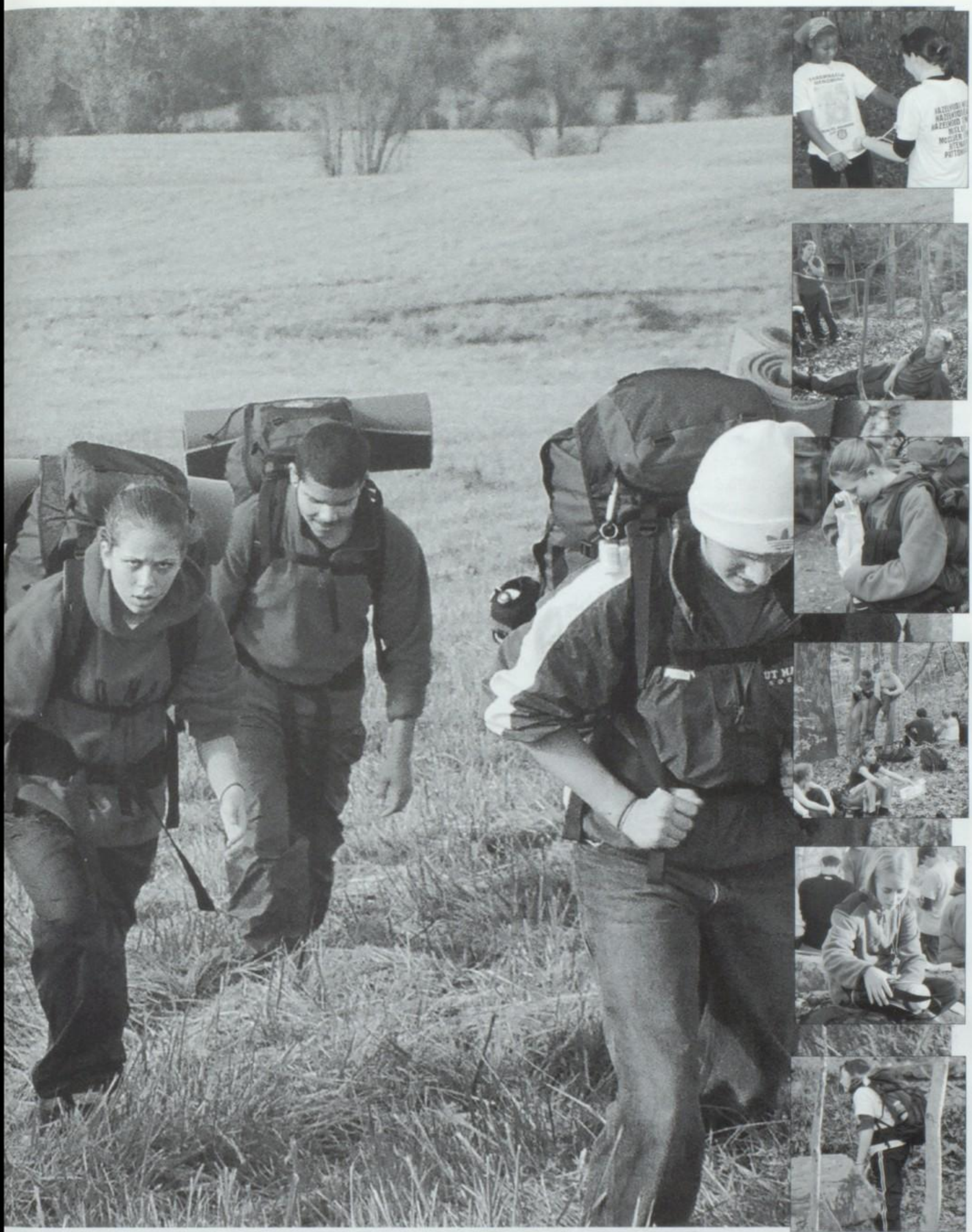
RCO. *Front Row:* Darell Boland, Chris Luft, David Malawey, Margaret Meisinger, Danielle Dillingham, Aimee Miller, Lauren Zelle, Darnica Darden, Korina Kessler, James Cafer. *Second Row:* Amber Green, Chris Tate, Carrie Whitcomb, Leah Kern, Jessica Franklin, Kassie Stillman, Austin Horton, Joe Binkley. *Back Row:* Mr. Haley, Karl Kulaitis, Katie Brown, Bethany Panian, Cara Riley, Chesha Bizan, Ba Huynh, Mrs. Lehman.

After their wilderness trek, sophomores Aimee Miller, Danielle Dillingham, Meggie Meisinger, and Lauren Zelle dive into their feast.

Preparing themselves, RCO 5 members attach harnesses and ropes to their bodies for the high ropes course. The course tested not only their nerves but their teamwork, as well.

Having trouble with her pack, junior Carrie Whitcomb receives help from fellow junior Austin Horton. RCO focused on teamwork and always helping out each other, even with the little things.

1. Trudging up the embankment, RCO 6 members struggle closer to their destination. The juniors had to climb up steep hills and wade through shallow creeks on their trek. 2. Desperately attempting to unravel the knot and free themselves, sophomores Darnicia Darden and Meggie Meisinger work together to get the task done. 3. Sponsor Mr. Applebaum and sophomore Danielle Dillingham take a break from the day-long journey through the woods. 4. Preparing to nourish herself, junior Katie Ayers peers into her lunch sack filled with non-perishable food items. 5. Campers survey the scenery at the campsite, just before heading back out on their walk. 6. Preparing for a long hike, sophomore Tomi Sale puts her water bottle back in her bag. The RCO 7 members packed everything into backpacks and carried them through the woods. 7. Traversing through the hike, RCO 7 member Meggie Meisinger follows her peers.



Ritenour Cardinal Ordinance 155

Battling it Out in the Wilderness

...by working together outside of school

by Rachel Valdez

The Ritenour Cardinal Ordinance provided many students with necessary skills for life-long success. By far, teamwork seemed to be the most prominent and notable skill. Senior Ashley Stock said, "You have to have teamwork because you are constantly picking others up if they aren't doing well." She said this was especially important in RCO because, "if you don't work as a team, you will fail what you are trying to get done." This opinion was also shared by others in the program. Sophomore James Cafer said that in RCO he used teamwork, but most importantly "you have to get along with people, and you meet new friends. RCO is a very different experience, so you have to work together."

Another important skill developed in RCO was leadership qualities. RCO sponsor and child development teacher Ms. Lehman said, "They develop leadership in terms of working in a group. They are put in a unique opportunity, sort of a survival situation." She said RCO is good because "typical leadership qualities aren't good enough, and often shyer kids begin to emerge as strong leaders. The kids who are not always that vocal seem to assume the role of the leader because they get 'testy' when everybody is going the wrong way in the woods. Eventually these kids stand up." Some were more specific in the leadership qualities they acquired. Junior Leah Kern said, "You test your limit, not only physically, but mentally."

RCO seemed like serious and hard work, but students found it to be a fun experience. For instance, senior Andy Hedlund had a specific instance that came to mind. He said, "One time we were trying to cross this creek and I decided to swing on a vine that was hanging from a tree, like Tarzan. As I was swinging, the vine broke and I fell onto the ice." Junior Anh Nguyen's experience was another slight gravity problem. She said, "When we went on this one hike, I just kept falling. One time, while we were climbing up a hill, I tripped and fell into a pile of horse manure. It was so gross! I bet I fell at least 30 times during that trip." Leah Kern remembered and joked, "Everytime we would here a rustle or a sound in back of us, we just assumed it was Anh falling again."

Whether working as a team, leading a group, or even falling in horse manure, RCO built leadership skills and friendships.

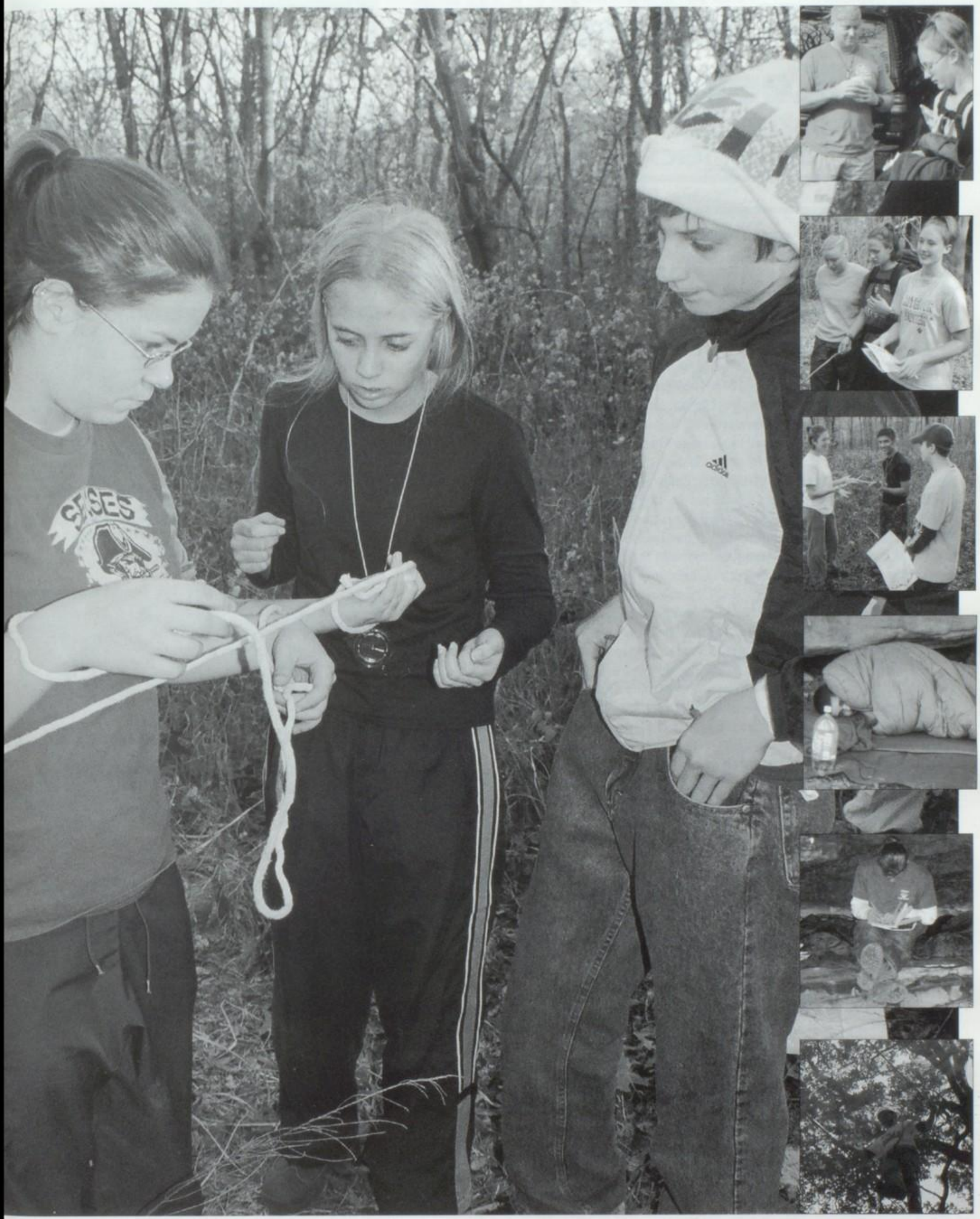
Dodging the rainy weather, juniors Chris Tate and Mark Sater contemplated the day ahead of them. Often, RCO members had to adapt to the bad weather around them while out on their trek.

Navigating through the wilderness together requires teamwork and group discussions. The RCO 7 members looked up from their maps and compasses, trying to find the best way to reach the next check point.

Lunging into the net of the high ropes course, senior Jeremy King latches on safely with senior Karl Kulaitis encouraging him. Teamwork was an essential part of RCO.

After reaching their destination for the night, the RCO 7 members gather around the fire to barbeque their hotdogs and eat macaroni and cheese. All the energy expelled on the walk needed to be replaced.

1. Untying a rope between them, sophomores Danielle Dillingham, Tomi Sale, and David Malawey utilize teamwork skills. This activity prepared them for a daylong trek through the woods. 2. Preparing for the night of solitude, junior Leah Kern packs her bag for overnight basics with sponsor Mr. Haley helping her check items. 3. With map in hand, juniors Carrie Whitcomb, Jackie Greco, and Leah Kern set off on the second half of their trek. Navigation skills were vital to the trip. 4. Observing fellow members, sophomore James Cafer watches on as sophomores Korina Kessler and Pritesh Patel try to untie themselves in a trust-building activity. The RCO sponsors employed these activities to build teamwork among the group. 5. With soda nearby, junior Chris Tate wakes up in his own personal cave. Each RCO 6 member received a whistle, candles, and a cave to get through the night of solitude. 6. Writing in her wilderness journal, junior Jackie Greco recounts the events on their trip. The members of RCO 6 wrapped and bound their own journals. 7. Climbing upon the treetops and ignoring gravity, senior Ba Huynh endeavors to complete the high ropes course. After crossing the monkey bridge, he continued on and finished the course along a zip line.


SENSES

Keep on Keepin' on

Surviving without sponsorship

by Chesha Bizan

Maintaining group spirit within a club and a winning spirit in a team is hard enough, but when the added challenges of providing money and fundraising for yourself are included, the challenge grows. Both the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and the Roller Hockey teams sponsored and funded themselves and were not as well known as some of the other clubs and teams. With funding from the school, however, that might change.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) involved all different types of athletes, even though being an athlete was not required to be a member. Sophomore Treasurer Katie Jennings stated, "You don't have to be an athlete to be involved. It's almost more like just a Fellowship of Christians rather than Christian athletes." President Rachel Gray, Vice President Shanicia Goston, Treasurer Katie Jennings, and Secretary Kassie Stillman led meetings every other Tuesday night at different members' houses. The meetings began with icebreakers, allowing new attendees and existing members to get to know each other, followed by a twenty minute Bible study. Each night was dedicated to a different topic, linking the group's love for Jesus Christ and the different sports in which each member was involved. Junior Secretary Kassie Stillman explained, "Each lesson relates a lot to athletics, from swimmers to golfers and wrestlers to band members."

The group did not receive any sponsorship from the school, which made it difficult to recruit new members and to keep the organization functioning. Junior President Rachel Gray admitted, "I think more people would be involved if people knew more about what FCA is." The group has "advertised" the club around school through their friends. Vice President Shanicia Goston asserted, "Support from the teachers and administration would help strengthen FCA. Peer influence could help get many more students involved."

The roller hockey team faced similar problems in trying to get the team started from finding coaches to money for equipment to team unity. The members provided their own gear and uniforms. Since many people did not even know about the team, the team morale was not boosted by a sea of students at each game. Sophomore Mike Stevenson encouraged, "If people knew about the team, we could get them to come out to our games and help us out. It seems like no one knows or cares."

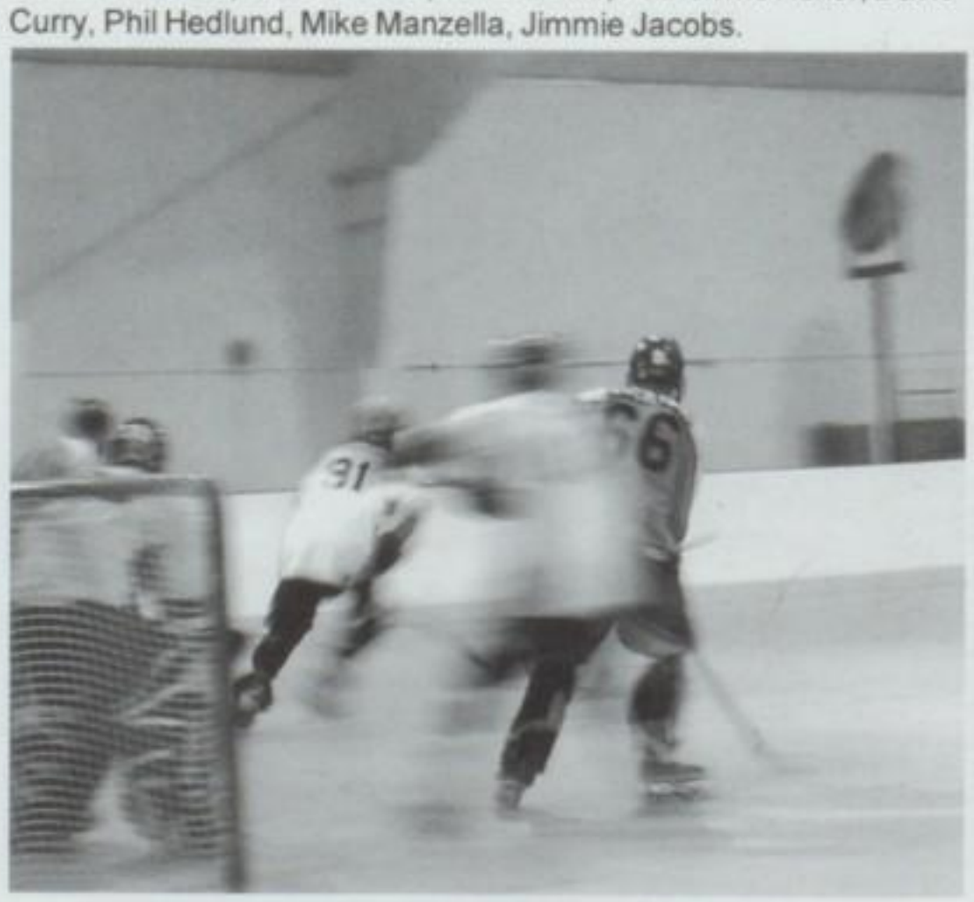
Team members provided themselves with all gear needed and rent practice time at different rinks. Junior Mike Cash disclosed, "Money could bring in more players and encourage people to play hockey." Students who cannot afford uniforms and equipment did not join the team.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES. *Front Row:* Kim Wells, Precious Elliott, Rachel Gray, Shanicia Goston. *Second Row:* Kati Marshall, Lauren Wildgrube, Chelsea Nester, Ms. Alferman. *Third Row:* Sarah Weatherford, Sarah McHenry, April Collins, Katie Jennings, Tim Meyers, Kylee Raney, Charles Pleasant.

VARSITY ROLLER HOCKEY. *Front Row:* Steven Cash, Shawn Groene, Mike Stevenson, Scott Frick, Joe Finch. *Back Row:* Coach Jimenez, Brian Colman, Brett Fallon, Aaron Chrisman, Justin Wheeler, Mike Cash, Juan Perales.

JUNIOR VARSITY HOCKEY. *Front Row:* Andrew Milton, Doug Hicks, Joe Bedwell, Matt Cowling, Danny Black, Andy Burton. *Back Row:* Coach Jimenez, Jacob Fisher, Aaron Dulle, Patrick McVicker, David Curry, Phil Hedlund, Mike Manzella, Jimmie Jacobs.

During an important game against Fort Zumwalt West, Mike Cash sneaks the puck under the goalie's legs, raising his team's score another point.



Fighting for position in front of the net, Juan Perales tries to set himself up for a goal.

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Congratulations to the Class of 2005

from Nancy McNiff

DANCE
LIKE NO ONES WATCHING YOU

SING
LIKE NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU

LOVE
LIKE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN HURT

LIVE
LIKE IT'S HEAVEN ON EARTH

MICHELLE,

WE COULD NOT HAVE ASKED FOR ANYTHING MORE WHEN GOD GAVE YOU TO US.

GOD GAVE YOU MANY SPECIAL GIFTS, YOU HAVE USED THEM WISELY. CONTINUE TO FOLLOW YOUR HEART AND YOU DREAMS.

I HOPE THAT YOU ALWAYS CHOOSE TO DANCE.

NEVER GIVE UP!

LOVE,
ALWAYS & FOREVER
DAD, MOM & C.J.

MICHELLE AS YOU ALWAYS SAY
"DREAM LIKE THERE IS NO TOMORROW"

To our daughter, Becky Coleman

A daughter is a wonderful blessing,
A treasure from above.
She's laughter, warmth and special charm,
She's thoughtfulness and love.

A daughter brings a special joy,
That comes from deep inside.
And as she grows from adulthood,
She fills your heart pride.

With every year that passes,
She's more special than before.
Through every stage, through every age,
You love her even more.

No words can describe the warm memories,
The pride and gratitude, too.
That comes from having a daughter,
To love and to cherish.. just like you, Becky.

Cortney Dollens

Cortney,
We are so proud of you. You are a very determined young lady and we know that you will go far in life. You are truly a blessing sent from God.
I know Mema and Papa are watching over you and are oh so proud of you.
We love,
Mom and Dad

Since the day I first held you, you have touched a special place in my heart.
You have grown into a beautiful young lady with a heart of gold. It is hard in this day and age to find a soul that is so tuned into others and you have that gift.
My wish for you is: may the road to your future be as blessed as the road from your past. And remember, wherever you do, you will be in my heart, my thoughts, and my prayers.
Love always and forever, LaDonna

Cortney,
We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished. Your future is as bright as you are. Good Luck!
Susie and Daniel

Cortney,
You've gone from a dorky little kid that annoyed me to a beautiful young lady who is more like a sister than a cousin. And the beauty that you have is not only on the surface, but it runs deep inside you.
I am proud of all you have accomplished and I know that your are destined for even greater things.
"I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean,
Whenever one door closes I hope one more opens,
Promise me that you'll give faith a fighting chance,
And when you get the choice you sit it out or dance,
I hope you dance."
I wish you the very best of everything.
Love,
Wendi, Steve, Bailey, Brenden, and Breanne

What can I say about Cortney,
Although we don't know each other well because of the miles between us, I have always considered her a special human. Every once in a while God bestows a true gift upon us, and I think Cortney was blessed. For a young person, she is so centered and responsible. I pray she remains so and reaches high and is always kind, loving and happy.
Your Grandmother Shirley,
I LOVE YOU

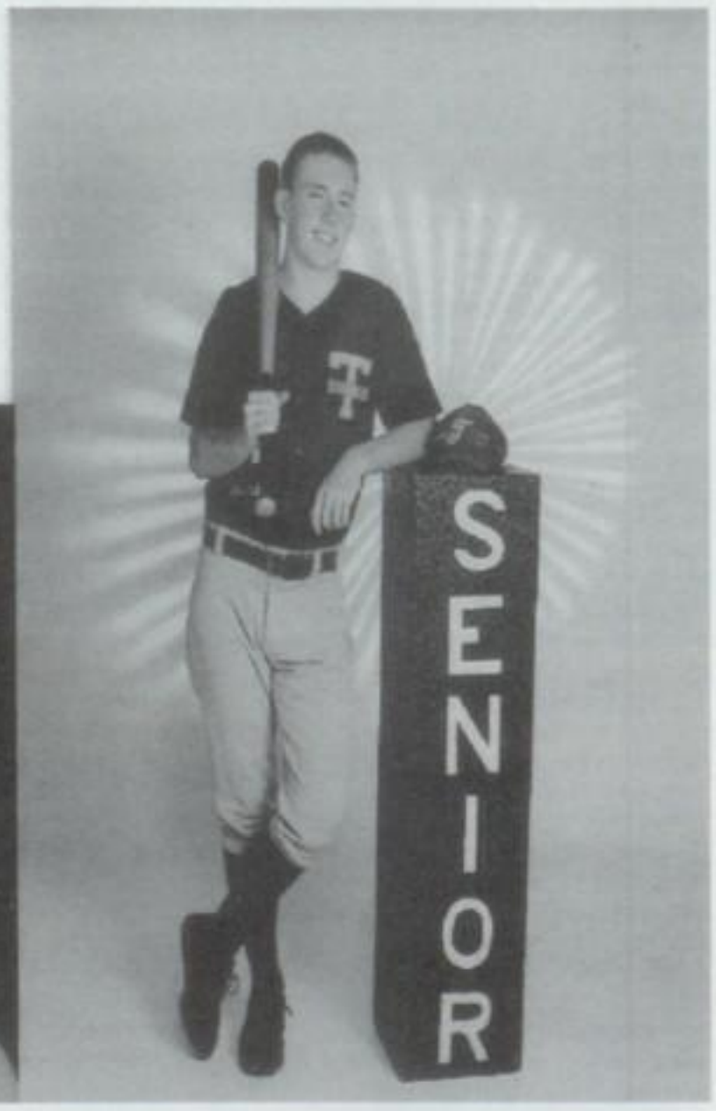
Justin Davis

Justin,
I'm so honored
to have son
like you. You
are my everything,
and I am so proud
of you!
Love, Mom
P.S. I love you! Have a good day!

CONGRATULATIONS

Michael Bialik

We are very proud of you!!!
Love
Mom, Dad, Jennifer, Grandmothers,
Rita, Tony, Tim and Mary



Amy Bostick

Congratulations,
Amy!
We are so
proud of you.
We hope all
your dreams
come true!
Love, Mom and Dad

Chesha Elizabeth Bizan

We are so proud of you!

from little cutie pie. . . . .

.to sweet, smart, and
beautiful young lady

CONGRATULATIONS
on your graduation!

Always follow your dreams. . .

Love,
Daddy, Donna, Christopher, Tracy, & Augie
(and Rascal, Gizmo, & Pookie)

Congratulations Shauna and Kennedy!
You make me so proud.
Love,
Mommy

Karl Kulaitis

To the world you may be one person,
but to us you are the world.
Love,
Your family

Kimberly Kellum

Kimber,
Congratulations! This is one of many accomplishments you will have. We are proud, and happy for you. You are precious to us and we love you with all our hearts.
Mommy, Daddy, and Brian

Josh Wuest

Congratulations!
We are so proud of you.
Best of wishes and good luck to you in all your future plans.

Love,
Mom, Dad and Steven

Jason Moeller

Jason,
We are so proud of you.
Good Luck at Indiana!

Love,
Mom and Dad

Huong Vu

Huong,
We are proud of you.
You are a blessing in our lives.

All our love and support.
Lori, Steve
Ryan, Brent
Jessica, Steven

Ryan Sweeney

Ryan,
It seems like only yesterday you were sliding down the stairs in your footed pajamas and playing Ninja Turtles. For Dad and I the time seems to have flown by. We hold dear memories of your years in elementary school, middle school, but most of all high school. We will never forget your leading role in An Actor's Nightmare, and your four years of football, making 1st Team All Conference and being awarded MVP this year. Dad and I are proud to say that we are parents of the one and only "Sweendawg" … GO #62!!

All of our love and support,
Mom and Dad

Sara Lewis

Sara-
Always speeding round town,
racing toward your goals.
Enjoy your victory lap.
We're proud of you.
Dad, Mom, Carolyn, Gary

Chris Albin

You did it!

Congratulations
to you and
the Class of 2005!

Love,
Dad, Mom
Ed- class of '99
Michelle- class of '01

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Serafina Anne Adams

Future Teacher

Angel baby,
You've always seen your dream;
now go for it!
Keep smiling!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Josie, Rob,
Willie, and Maddie

Alison Greco

Thank you, Ritenour, for all the time invested in making me successful and preparing for my future.

God bless,
Ali Greco

Academic Letter-Honor Roll--American Field Service--American Youth Foundation--Band--Basketball--Cross Country--Drum Major--Fellowship of Christian Athletes--Junior Leadership--Pathways to Leadership--Tennis--Track and Field--Who's Who--

Peanut,

You'll never know how proud I am of you. You've come a long way, baby. No matter what you do, just do your best. Remember, if you reach for the moon and you miss, at least you'll land among the stars.

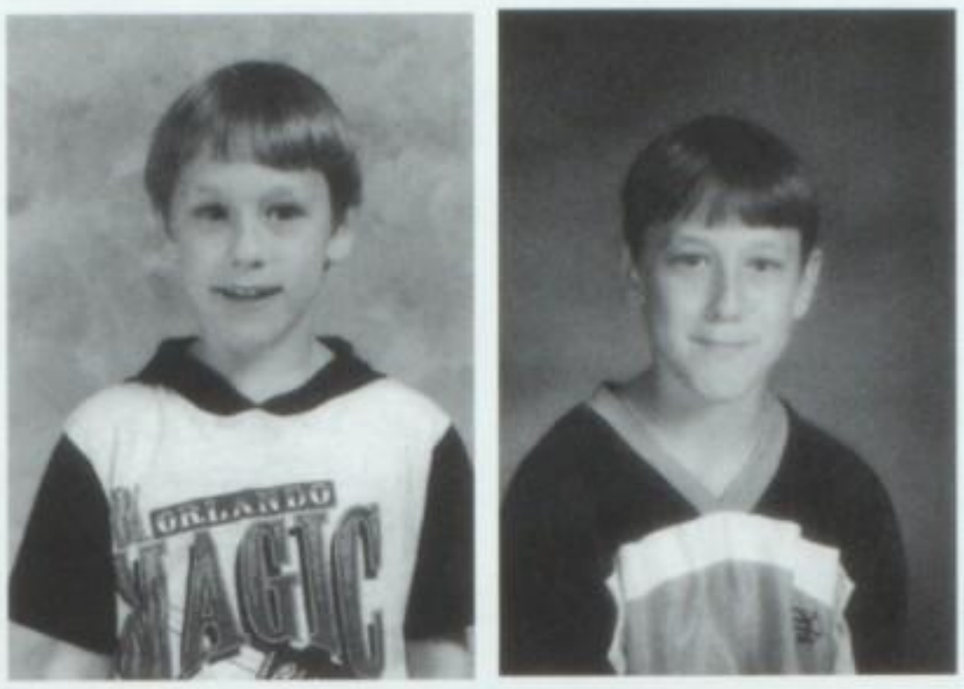
Love,
Mom

Erica Lynn Beger

"not just another pretty face"

Conference--Marching Band--Mckenzie Staff--Mu Alpha Theta--National Honor Roll--National Honor Society--Orchestra

Aaron Rosengren



We're very proud of you as you have turned into a fine young man. You have worked very hard to get where you are. We know that you will succeed in college and throughout life. May God be with you always.
Philipians 1:9-11

Love, Mom and family

Rosetta Okohson-Reb

Rosetta,
Writing one page to describe how very special you really are will take more than this page.
Since the day you were born, you've added a special purpose for my life you are great, a born leader, planner, organizer, and fun to be around.
Success is your middle name! Continue trusting God and you will always do well.
Love Always, Mom and your family,
Isaiah, Fatima, and Jonathan

Rosetta, Rosetta, you're graduating this year.
The start of your big future is far too near.
You're always wanting to debate.
When you go to Oklahoma University, it will be great.
At home sometimes you're not nearly as nice.
But now you're leaving I'll give you some advice.
Stop bragging about the class of "05."
You're graduating in May and leaving the beehive.
Since eighth grade that's all you've talked about.
We're getting the spirit stick all four so don't even pout.
Well, when you walk across the stage always remember
"05s" tree is cut down and we'll all yell, "Timber!"
Thinking of you I made up this poem.
Like Grandma says, get your education and then show'em.
Love, Isaiah, your fantastically talented brother from the same mother.

Amanda Reppy

Amanda,
We are very proud of you.
You have become a beautiful young woman.
Set your goals high.

Love,
Mom, Dad and April

Amanda Parkus

Amanda AKA Manda Bear,

Congratulations!
We're so proud of you.
Determination leads to success.

Remember yesterday
Live today
But always look towards tomorrow.
Your wings will never be broken, baby girl.
She will always be with you.

We love you always and forever.
Mom, Dad, Tim, Shawn, Brett

Nikki Chamberlain

To our sunshine,
You are everything that we hoped you would be. We are very proud of you.
XOXO, Mom & Dad

R Restitching our label...

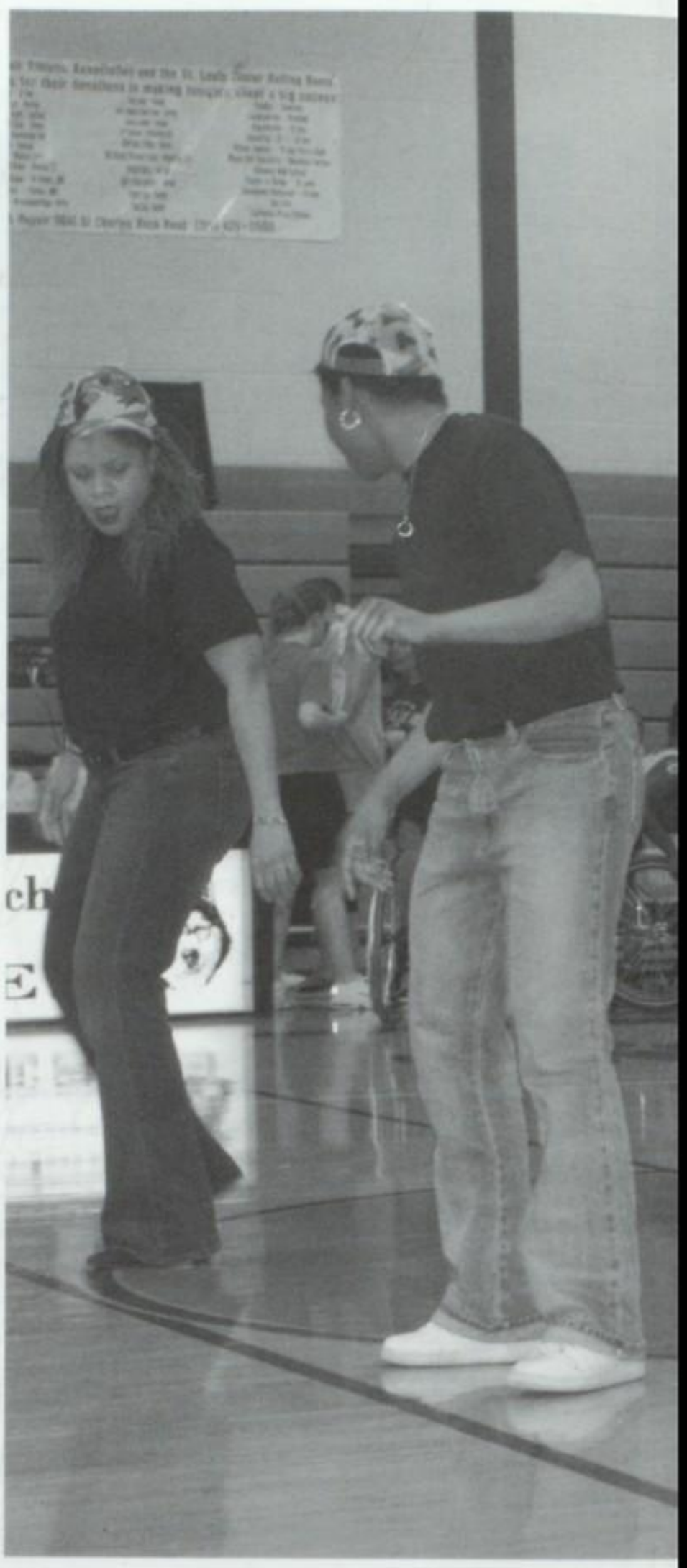
Taking control of our own reputation...

by Nicole Walker

The last assembly, the senior countdown, MAP testing. Summer break is right around the corner and students are ready to get out. Another school year comes to a close, and as you stand in the center of the hallway, you look at the variety of people and think about how each of them has contributed to this school.

A state qualifier from the swim team walks by and a captain dedicated to leading the football team to victory sits in a classroom talking to a teacher. A student from National Honor Society converses with a student from Mu Alpha Theta at the lockers. Watching all of these people, the thought hits you…we are not so bad after all.

The next time you go to the store, a security guard follows you the entire time, pretending to be occupied by other things. Knowing that he is making sure you are not stealing, you turn to him and tell him about everything you have accomplished this year. You tell him about all of the nights you stayed up late studying, got up early to attend classes, and still stay after for practice and other activities, not to mention working. Being caught off guard, the officer has a sudden change in expression. His look goes from suspicion to surprise, and then he suddenly he has a distinct look of respect for you on his face. He just smiles at you and walks away. As you turn to finish your shopping, you smile to yourself as you realize that you helped to change what it means to be R rated.



Between cleaning up after kids in the cafeteria and messes made in the hall, janitor Ronald Mueller takes a lunch break in the janitor's office.

Performing in the play Grease, senior Casey McGowan, sophomore Kylee Raney, and junior Rachel Gray sit outside for lunch and wait for the boys. Later they are introduced to new student, Sandra D.

Trying to get the child she received in Advanced Child Development to quiet down, senior Sierra Collins rocks the baby back and forth.

Working is something that many teenagers have to give up their free time to do to pay off expenses like recreation, cars, and phone bills.

In order to prepare for districts, Readers' Theatre chooses one day to perform for different classes. The eight members performed numerous poems without using a set or costumes.

After doing some investigative work for a newspaper story, some staff from the Pepper Box take a break and have lunch at Applebees.

As a fund raiser for Relay for Life, some students organized a wheelchair basketball game. Students played each other, teachers, and the St. Louis Rolling Rams. At halftime and between each of the games, entertainment was provided, including dancing teachers.

During spirit week seniors Brian Williams and Karl Kulaitis dress up as characters from The Incredibles for superhero day. Senior Justin Pillarick showed that he was a hero by wearing his blood donor's shirt.

As a project for Mrs. Stone's class, juniors Ryan Mahn and Mark Sater did a broadcast interview on social security on KMOX Radio.

Retrieving a ball that has been hit out of bounds, a player passes the ball back in as quickly as possible to keep the game going.

Colophon

The 2005 Melaureus yearbook, Volume 55, contained 172 pages, with three flats of four-color and one flat of spot color. After brainstorming and discussing ideas, the theme, R-Rated, was selected by the yearbook staff during the first week of school.

The four-color lithograph on 160 pt. cover board was designed by staff members. The orange endsheets proved an easy decision, as they reflect the school colors. Almost all of our body copy is Times New Roman, 10 pt.; captions are set in Arial, 8 pt.; headlines are AHJ Ellis, 36 pt.; subheads are AHJ Bump, 20 pt. ; and folios are AHJ Michael, 14 pt.

Staff used 10 Compaq PCs running Windows '98, one scanner, two Pentax ZX cameras, and one digital Olympus D-600L camera to create the book. Contributing software included Microsoft Word '97, Adobe PageMaker 6.5, and Adobe Photoshop 5.5.

All submissions were on Zip disk, as were proof corrections. Printed on 80 # Bordeaux paper, the book came into existence at the Herff-Jones plant (726 East Gracia, Marceline, MO 64658-1503) thanks to Liz Cox, service representative of the company.

Approximately $22,000 covered the production costs (Including developing pictures at Walgreens) of this edition of Melaureus. Yearbook consumers spent $40 during first semester and $50 during second semester. 700 copies were printed and distributed in May. Melaureus is a member of Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and Volume 54 took a Silver Medalist Certificate in the nationwide Annual Critique at Columbia University in New York.

2004-2005 Staff

Adviser:
Anne Boyd

Co-Editors-in-Chief:
Melissa Sabin
Nicole Walker

Section Editors:
Cortney Dollens
Jessica Franklin
Molly Jennings
Bethany Panian

Advertising Editor:
Carie Breen

Layout:
Erica Beger
Becky Coleman
Nikki Chamberlain
Danielle Jamerson
Karl Kulaitis
Tiana Lambus
William Poelker
Kyle Smith
Nicole Young
Whitney Young

Photographers:
Tim Berry
Loren Black
Lindsey Blankenhorn
Amy Bostick
Alison Greco
Dre'Shawna Hearod
Kimberly Kellum
Nick Richardson
Deidre Woodberry
Josh Wuest
Heather Young

Staff Writers:
Chesha Bizan
Kristy Johnson
Erin Lampe
Sara Lewis
Casey McGowan
Tonia O'Neal
Kristen Rehagen
Ashley Scott
Rachel Valdez

Seniors of Melaureus

Thank you for your service!

Three Year Participants:

Melissa Sabin
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Two Year Participants:

Cortney Dollens
Erica Beger
Molly Jennings
Whitney Young
Loren Black
Lindsey Blankenhorn
Amy Bostick
Kimberly Kellum
Sara Lewis

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Nikki Chamberlain
Chesha Bizan
Kristy Johnson
Erin Lampe
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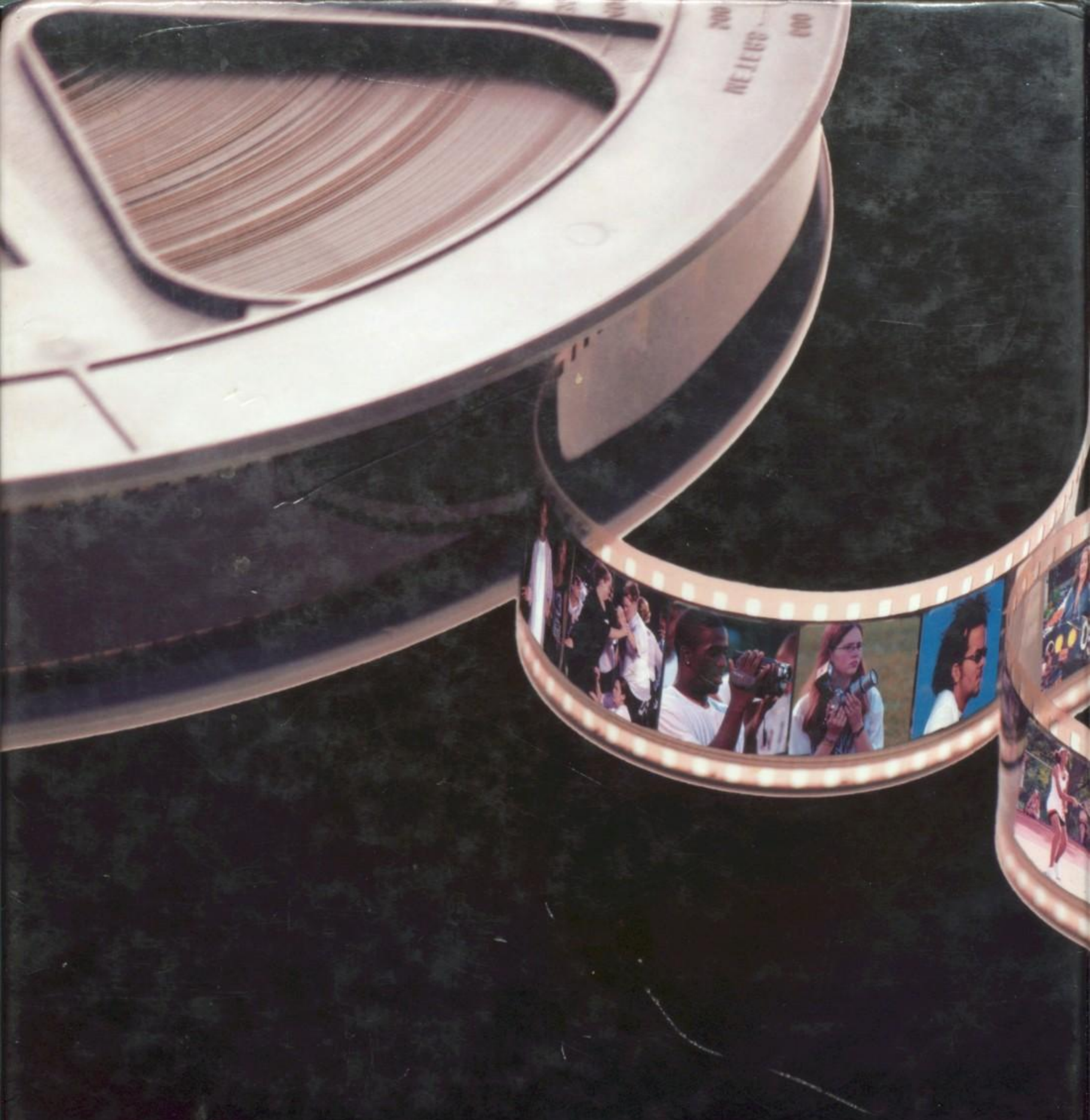
Nick Richardson
Casey McGowan
Tonia O'Neal
Karl Kulaitis
Tiana Lambus
Kyle Smith
Josh Wuest
Tim Berry

ALEXIS,

I've known you for so long. O.K. maybe not. Like two or three years. We've always been good friends. Although there were some times we weren't in the 7th grade. You're a smart kid just like me. But you known your grades are better. Hopefully I'll have straight A's. You know you seem crazy or insane and you do have weird ideas but you're still a fun person to talk to. I know though that you're serious b/c you were in debate. Although I was mad when you and Alicia became partners. But I got over it. Alexis you know you're a great friend, and a great person. Hopefully, I'll know you for my years at Ritenour w/o a fight. well buddy, I hope you have a great summer.

Sorry C/M sometime

Always,

Josshe'

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